Ann Arbor Observer

November 2008

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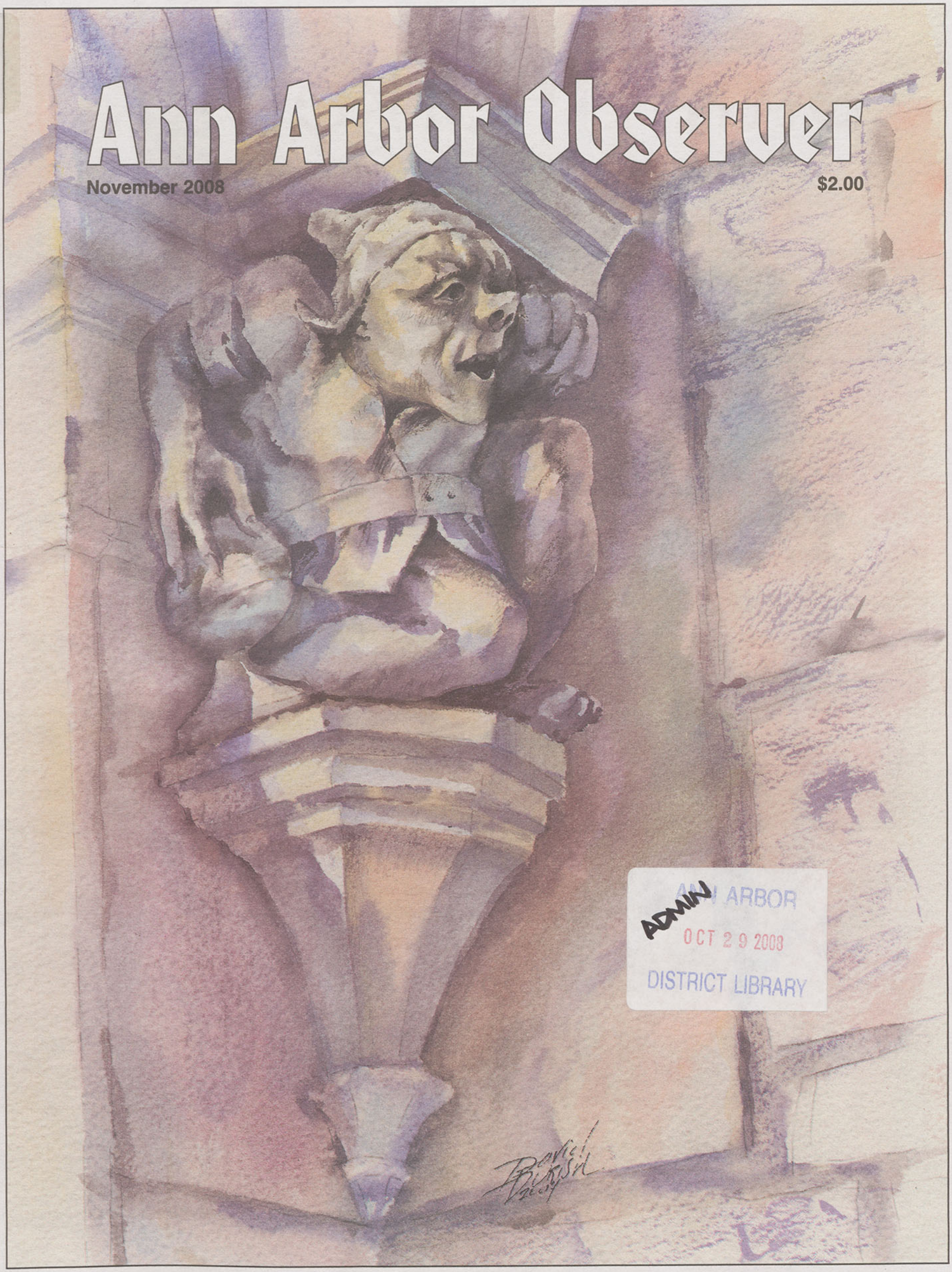

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We offer public skating seven-days-a-week at varying times. There's also drop-in hockey & broom ball as well as extended skating hours during school break sessions in November, December, January, February and March. Go online for dates and times.

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The 2nd and 4th Friday of each month during our general skate from 7:15 to 8:45 p.m. Skate under our mirror balls to themed music & dress up to win prizes for best costume! Visit **www.a2gov.org/buhr** for a complete list of themed skates. Join us for the first event Nov 28: Luau Skate. Wear Hawaiian prints and skate to the music of the islands.

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Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation Services offers Instructional Skating. Levels: include Kinderskate, Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced classes. To register visit Vets (2150 Jackson Road) online at **www.a2gov.org/parks** or call 734.761.7240.

Upcoming Instructional Skating Sessions:
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American Red Cross group swim classes are offered at Mack Indoor Pool (715 Brooks Street) for ages 6 months to adult beginners. Class levels 1-3, parent/child and adult run 30 minutes each, while class levels 4-6 run 45 minutes each. Upcoming sessions: Jan. 10 to Feb. 28 AND March 7 to May 2. To register visit **www.a2gov.org/parks** or call 734.994.2898.

Golf

Huron Hills & Leslie Park Golf Courses

Huron Hills & Leslie Park Golf Courses are open, weather permitting. Visit **www.a2gov.org/golf** for tee times and discounted rates for the fall while the courses are still open. Don't miss the Chili Open Sunday, Nov. 9 at Leslie Park. Two-person scramble begins at 9 a.m. 18-holes. $40 per person fee includes breakfast, prizes, chili and chili dogs. Call 734.994.1163 for a tee time.

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315 Detroit Street, 734.994.FARM (3276). Wednesday and Saturday from May to December, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday only, January to April, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Visit **www.a2gov.org/market**.

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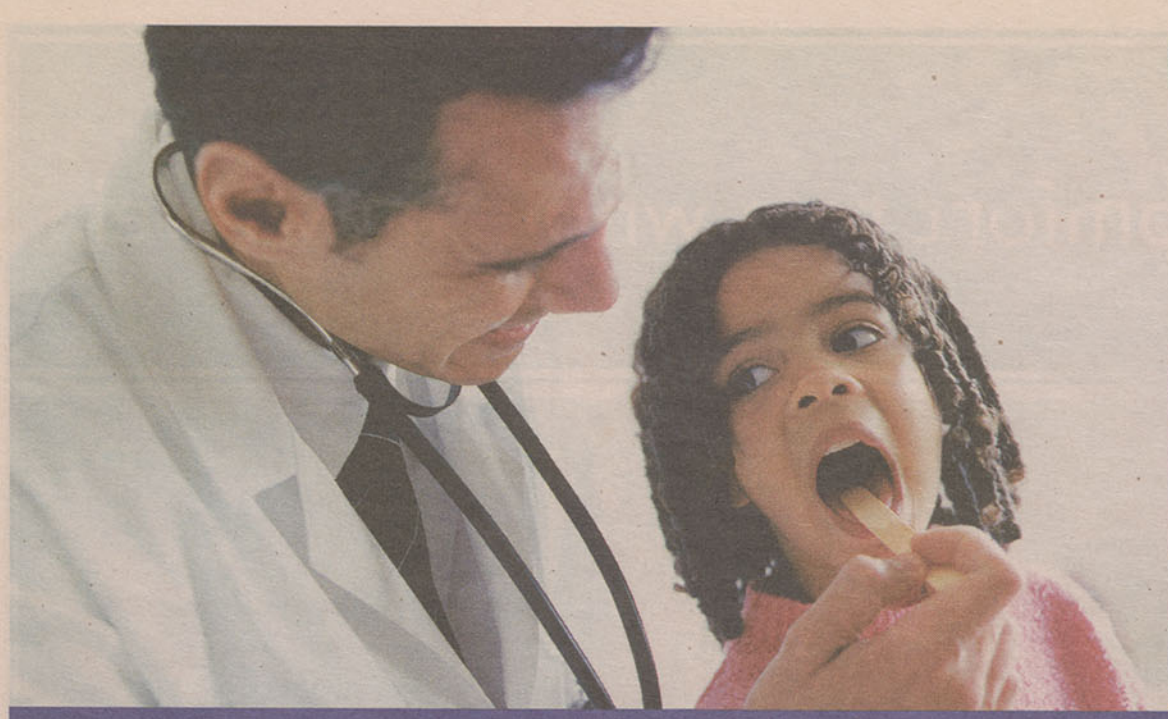

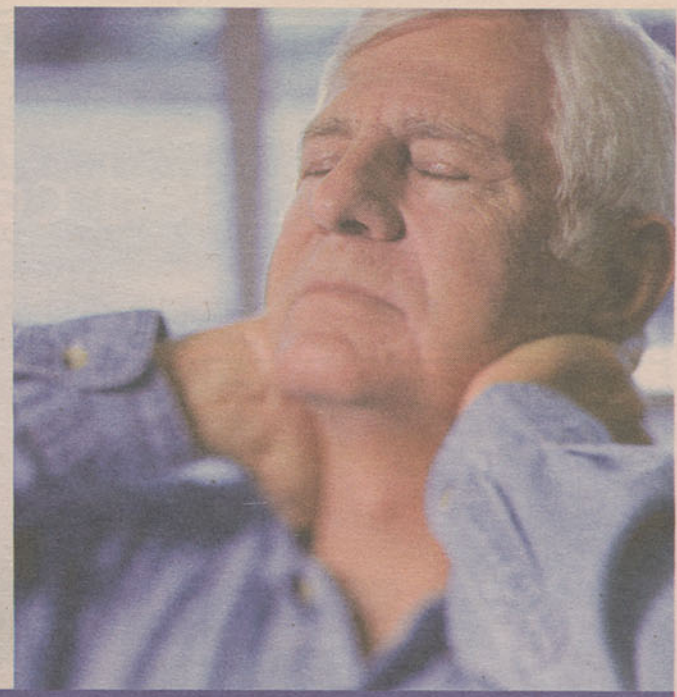

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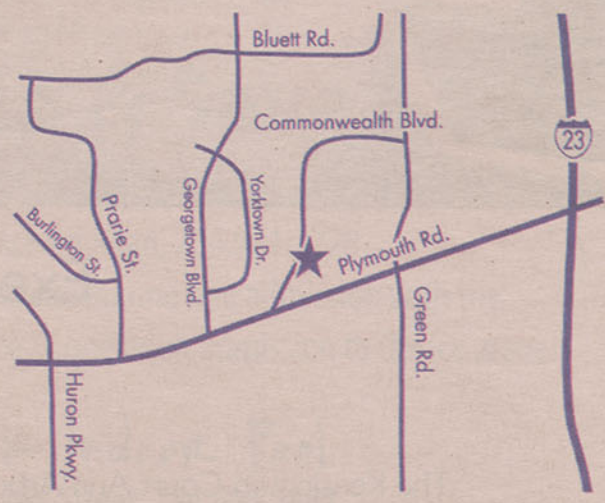

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Ann Arbor Observer
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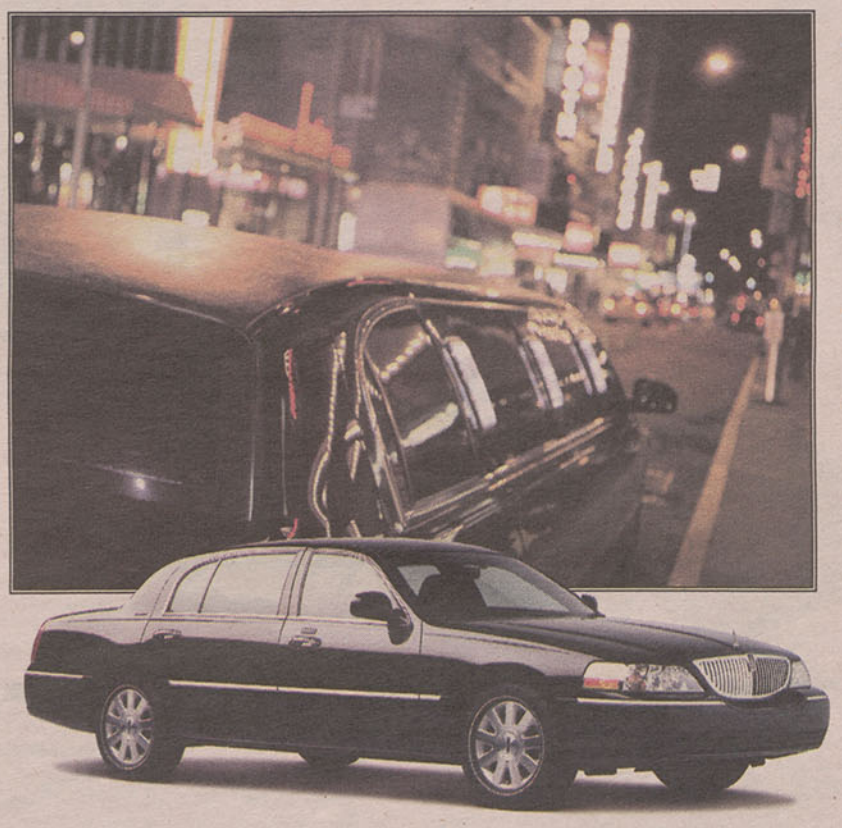
Night on the Town ...



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Ann Arbor Observer

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The Zingerman's Times

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Cranberry Pecan Bread

Available Every Day through November & December!

Bread fans everywhere wait all year long for this bread! It's a perennial favorite for the holidays and sources say this Bakehouse exclusive is a magic combination of the Bakehouse's popular San Francisco Sourdough, toasty pecans, and dried New England cranberries. Pick up a loaf (or two, or three–they freeze well!) at the Bakehouse, Roadshow and Delicatessen or order from www.zingermans.com.

Zingerman's mail order wants you!

For info on great seasonal jobs with Zingerman's Mail Order, *Times* readers are encouraged to apply in person Monday-Friday 9am-5pm
610 Phoenix Dr.,
Ann Arbor, 48108
(off Varsity, north of Ellsworth)

3rd Annual Holiday Gift Fair
Wednesday, December 10th, 4-7pm at Zingerman's Deli
FREE admission and samples!

Times readers get a head start on holiday shopping with special gifts for the foodies on their lists! Gift wrapping also available.

Zingerman's Roadhouse	2501 Jackson Rd. 734.663.FOOD
Zingerman's Delicatessen	422 Detroit St. 734.663.DELI
Zingerman's Catering and Events	422 Detroit St. 734.663.3400
Zingerman's Bakehouse	3711 Plaza Dr. 734.761.2095
Zingerman's mail order	422 Detroit St. 888.636.8162
ZingTRAIN	PO Box 1837 734.930.1919
Zingerman's Creamery	3723 Plaza Dr. 734.929.0500
Zingerman's Coffee Company	422 Detroit St. 734.929.6060

www.Zingermans.com

zingerman's dishes out low-stress holiday

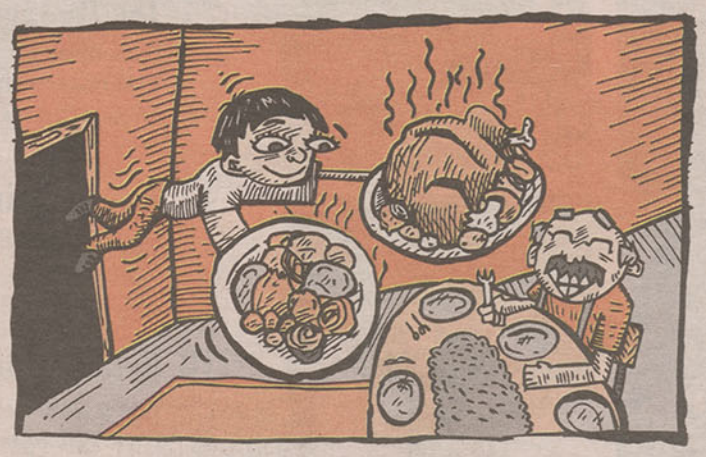
Countdown to Holiday Take-Out from the Deli

Thinking ahead, the Deli has put together complete holiday feasts for four. Featuring local turkey breast from Harnois and Son Farm hand-selected by Chef Rodger, matched with celery and sage stuffing, brussels sprouts with butternut squash and chestnut cream soup, Thanksgiving dinner from the Deli provides a truly tasty holiday.

Available November 24-26!

View the full Deli Thanksgiving menu at www.zingermans-deli.com. Call ahead for pickup: 734.663.3354

Pick up a loaf of Bakehouse Jewish rye for sandwiches the day after Turkey Day!



Traditional, housemade Thanksgiving meals available for carryout at Zingerman's Deli and Roadhouse!

Full-flavored feasting has never been easier, thanks to Zingerman's.

Thanksgiving To-Go Available from the Roadshow

Hailed as "The greatest turkey recipe in the history of Thanksgiving" by *Esquire* magazine. Zingermans Roadhouse's roast turkey with Zingerman's exclusive Spicy Coffee Spice Rub has never been easier to serve at home for the holiday.

Times readers on the westside report that all they need to do is call 734.663.FOOD to place their order, and then come pick it up.

Customers can pick up their order at the Roadshow Trailer. Check out www.zingermansroadhouse.com for the full Roadhouse Thanksgiving menu.

pies aplenty are worth celebrating!

According to recent polls, *Times* readers count dessert made with quality ingredients among the things they are most thankful for. Pies from Zingerman's Bakehouse feature only all-butter and butter/lard crusts. Sources confirm there's no other way to get the texture and taste that makes great pies great and this year's assortment of full-flavored holiday pies is no exception:

Cranberry Walnut—Rich brown sugar custard with tart cranberries and toasted walnuts.

Chocolate Chess—A rich chocolate custard with made with Scharffen Berger dark baking chocolate baked in a buttery crust.

Pilgrim Pumpkin—Creamy pumpkin filling spiced with Indonesian cinnamon, ginger, and cloves and made as rich as a person could stand with the addition of cream from Guernsey dairy.

Perky Pecan—It's a pile of toasted pecans, literally, surrounded by a rich brown sugar custard made from unrefined Mauritian brown sugar, real butter, and vanilla.

Old School Apple—Lard and butter crust filled with apples and a little butter, a little cinnamon, a smidge of nutmeg and some sugar.

don't delay! times readers are urged to reserve their holiday dessert now by calling 734.761.2095

Ship pies to friends and family from coast to coast by calling 888.636.8162 or visiting www.zingermans.com.

limited edition holiday coffee coming in november

Early reports indicate that Zingerman's Coffee Company's special holiday brew – a smooth, fruity blend of bright, lightly roasted Latin American and rich-bodied Yemen Sanani beans – is an excellent way to wrap up a holiday meal, especially when served with pie from the Bakehouse and traditional gelato from the Creamery!

Coming in mid-November and available at Zingerman's Delicatessen and Next Door coffeeshop, the Bakehouse and Roadhouse, and at www.zingermans.com, while supplies last.

favorite fall gelato flavors old and new make a comeback

Sources confirm that Zingerman's Creamery is bringing back handmade gelato in traditional holiday flavors, as well as an exotic fall flavor that is knocking the socks off *Times* readers.

There have been numerous sightings of one of the most unique flavors ever to hit the gelato world: Paw Paw. Experts describe the paw paw as the "tropical" fruit of the North, and Zingerman's co-founder Ari Weinzweig describes the taste of paw paw as "Slightly citrusy, custardy when ripe. The flavor's not strong, but it is rather smoothly persuasive, never pervasive or intrusive. Got maybe a hint of lime, a little vanilla, a papaya, maybe a touch of the taste of ripe pear."

In addition, Harvest Pumpkin gelato has made a triumphant return and will be topping Thanksgiving pies all over town. Also making a special, limited-time only appearance is cinnamon, the scintillating holiday classic.

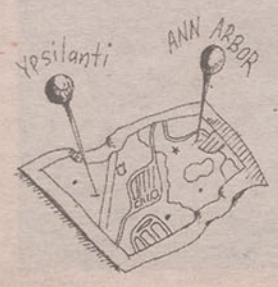
Easy come, easy go: Seven years ago, Ann Arbor environmental engineer Kevin Olmstead won $2.18 million on *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire*. During the three weeks between the time the show was taped and the time it aired, Olmstead prepared, like an engineer, for the storm: by the time ABC called him back to New

York to talk to Diane Sawyer on *Good Morning America* and receive the check on the air on *Regis and Kathie Lee*, he had already delisted his phone number and opened a VIP account at National City Bank.

What he didn't anticipate was sharing Regis and Kathie Lee's green room with a fellow Ann Arborite—Jean Jennings of *Automobile* magazine. Jennings grabbed the chance, and when they got back to Ann Arbor, she took the new millionaire shopping for a minivan. "We looked at the Odyssey at Howard Cooper Honda and the Town & Country at Naylor," Olmstead remembers—though "she of course was hoping I'd buy a Porsche." Instead, he "put aside enough to pay taxes" and "bought a Town & Country minivan for thirty-three thousand dollars and a luxury condo in northeast Ann Arbor." He gave $10,000 each to his mom, sister, nephews, and niece and endowments to three of the four universities where he earned degrees and taught (he didn't give anything to MIT since it did not accept him into its Ph.D. program; he did to Michigan, because it did). And he joined Toastmasters International to practice his public speaking.

So how is he feeling now, with investments melting down right and left? Olmstead—still single, still working part time at Tetra Tech, still driving his seven-year-old minivan—seems unperturbed. "It's down to a couple hundred thousand," he says of his winnings—but even before the market plummeted, "it was never enough to retire on." Still, he's trying to pick up more hours at work—and, he adds, "I am available for speaking gigs."

Winning brand: The city of Ann Arbor is no longer growing—but you'd never know it to look at Ann Arbor SPARK's renamed website, AnnArborUSA.org. The economic development group's map of the "Ann Arbor region" includes all of Washtenaw County. In a recent presentation, Amy Cell of SPARK explained that people outside the immediate area have never heard of Washtenaw, but "Ann Arbor is an international brand." However, Suzanne Shaw, who represented Ypsilanti on the county commission at the time of SPARK's inception as the "Ann Arbor / Ypsilanti SmartZone Local Development Finance Authority," doesn't like the implication that her city is merely an extension of Ann Arbor. "I find it strange that they are trying to market this whole area as Ann Arbor after all these years of putting down Ypsilanti as not a good place to live," Shaw says. "We like our identity."



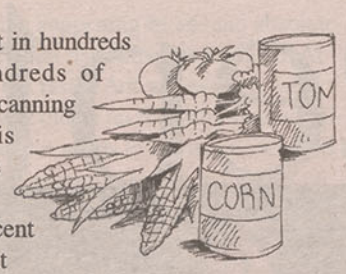
SPARK marketing manager Elizabeth Parkinson calls that "local thinking"—the audience for the "Ann Arbor" brand, she says, is international. Once SPARK has interested a business prospect into coming to the region, Parkinson adds, all local communities are free to "have their own messaging in place" to sell themselves. And, Amy Cell notes, such branding is not unique to this area—during a recent visit to Ann Arbor, officials from Orange County, North Carolina, revealed that their county now markets itself as "Chapel Hill."

Little house in the courtyard: Against a backdrop of skyscraping cranes, a towering framework of I-beams, and the pounding of pneumatic tools, a lone forklift recently chugged into the courtyard behind C. S. Mott's Children's Hospital and, in a matter of minutes,

quietly eased an entire house—a ninety-square-foot playhouse—onto its concrete slab. Maddie's Storybook Cottage is named after Maddie Shaw, who died in May at age four after a sixteen-month stay in Mott's cardiac intensive care unit, waiting for a heart transplant that never came.

Several local suppliers, designers, and builders donated high-end materials for the playhouse, and Christian Tennant Custom Homes coordinated construction off site, at Mans Lumber & Millwork in Hamburg. An elegant structure with a steep cedar-shake roof, hardwood floors, handcrafted furniture, and a faux fireplace faced with Motawi tile, the playhouse sits near an existing small play area in the courtyard. Like the rest of the play area, it will be open to all Mott patients, first come, first served.

Canning's comeback: Ann Arborites are rediscovering the art of preserving their own fruits and vegetables. "Everybody's doing it," says Mark Hodesh of Downtown Home & Garden. "We normally get in hundreds and hundreds of cases of canning jars. This year, we ordered fifty percent above last



year, and we've had to reorder on top of that." At Ace Barnes Hardware on Stadium, "sales are up at least twenty percent," says housewares manager Jan Magielski. "And we've always done well with canning supplies, so that's saying something. This year we've sold so many pressure canners we can't keep them in stock, and our own warehouse is behind on back orders. Even jars and lids, something we always order a lot of, are going out as fast as they come in."

Hodesh cites three reasons for the surge: "There's the locavore movement—and what could be more local than eating out of your backyard? Then there's the concern with controlling what's used in your food chemicalwise—and how better to control it than to do it yourself? And, finally, with headlines so dour, it just makes you feel good to can. In this topsy-turvy world we're living in, people like the comfort."

"The economy has a lot to do with it, too," adds Ace's Magielski. "The cost of groceries in general is a big factor—and then when you put in the freight charges and the gas to get to the store on top of that, it's cheaper to do it at home."

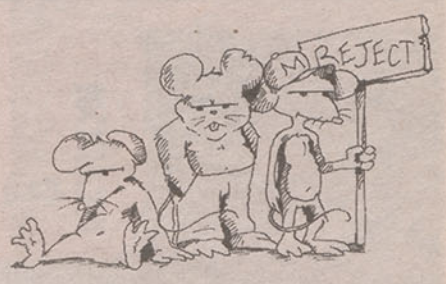
Super sale: Thrift- and style-conscious Ann Arborites have long been fans of the weekly Saturday sales at the Kiwanis building downtown. Few realize that on Thursday mornings, the store opens again for a private sale to a select group of shoppers. The buyers are in urgent need of everyday necessities like clothes, dishes, and beds—which they pay for with vouchers donated by the Kiwanians themselves.

Downtown Kiwanis president Lynne Lande says that last year the store gave away 255 vouchers worth about $30,000. At least thirty-two agencies send clients and caseworkers to the special Thursday sale. By now many of the caseworkers and Kiwanians know each other by sight, and the atmosphere is friendly. One day in October, a woman accompanied by a Community Action Network staffer chose a lamp, a coffee table, and other small items of furniture for her new apartment, while a Jewish Family Services worker helped a Russian immigrant find a TV—especially important to people who are not native speakers of English.

Because of the dismal economy, demand for vouchers has been especially brisk the last couple of years, Lande says. Unfortunately, hard times have also cut into donations. "Instead of going out and buying new furniture," says longtime volunteer Sally Lamkin, "people are making do with what they have."

Mouse creator: First-time Ann Arbor children's book author Sheila Pursglove found her dream illustrator through a blind ad on Craigslist. "I'm your man," confidently asserted bily charley (he doesn't capitalize his names). Heretofore best known for his volunteer activities (Food Gatherers, the Ark) and for the fantastical tattoos all over his body, charley had illustrated graphic novels and T-shirts but never a book. Still, Pursglove—and publishers Steve and Shira Klein—preferred his big-eyed, saucy mouse over what a company press release calls the more somber "traditional Beatrix Potter–style image" most artists submitted. So charley, who also manages the Sunday Artisan Market, is now a published illustrator as well—in October the Kleins' Huron River Press published Pursglove's *The Mouse Ate the House*, with illustrations by bily charley.

After drawing Merriweather Matthew Mouse eating his way though a Christmas gingerbread house, charley was emboldened to begin writing and illustrating a children's book of his own. He also helped to design a Merriweather Mouse costume—a costumed, adult-size Merriweather will be attending Pursglove's book signings this holiday season.



What does it cost?

$485,000—1994 Schweizer 333 helicopter ("750 hours total since new"), from Bijan Air

$475—vintage-style Chinese "Flying Pigeon" women's bicycle (includes lights, bell, rear rack, and front basket), at V2V

$10—in-town delivery of up to 100 pounds, by bicycle, from HD Hauling

$21.78—basic local delivery fee, including fuel surcharge, from Rightaway Delivery

$2—A "walking taco" (Fritos topped with chili and cheese) at the Pioneer-Skyline booster tent at Main and Stadium on football Saturdays

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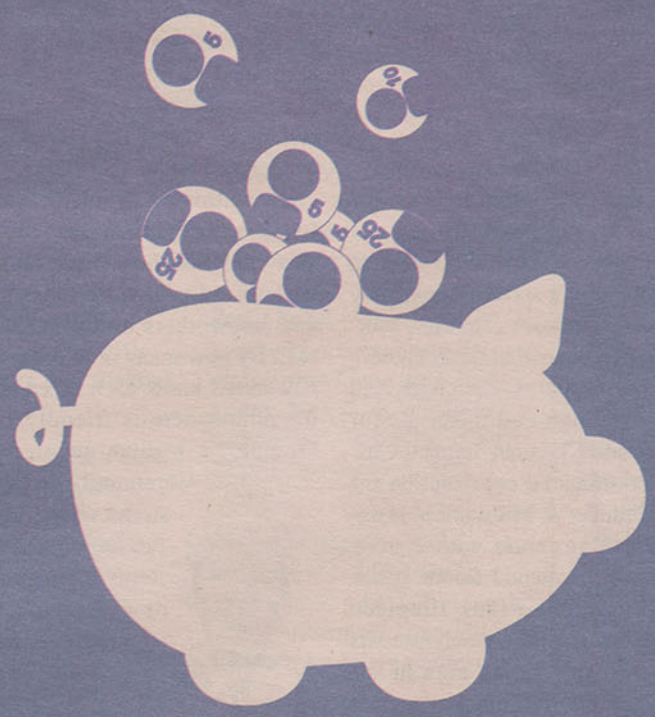

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The Hatch Act Strikes Again

Politicians beware: the Hatch Act is coming—and it may be coming for you.

An obscure 1939 federal law originally designed to curb rampant patronage in the post office, the Hatch Act is now being used as a blunt political object to force candidates out of elections—or jobs.

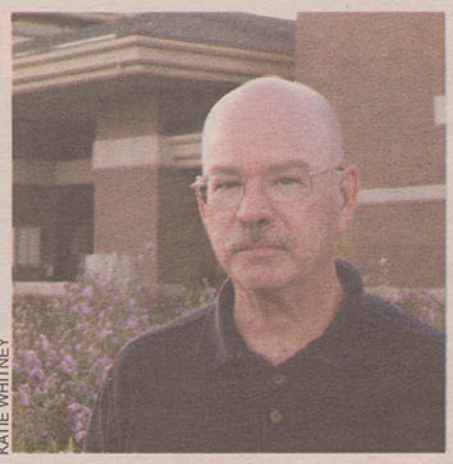
The act's changed the course of three county races this year. Saline police chief Paul Bunten dropped his bid for county sheriff after incumbent Dan Minzey notified him he was in violation of the act. Wes Prater resigned from the county road commission after he was accused of violating the act by running for county commissioner. Prater went on to win the Democratic commission primary, and will face Republican Owen Diaz in the general election on November 4.

But by far the most dramatic—and the most confusing—use of the Hatch Act for political purposes is in Pittsfield Township. When Alan Israel filed a primary challenge to incumbent clerk Feliziana Meyer, Meyer filed a series of Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests about him. She learned that as chief of staff in the county prosecutor's office Israel had overseen two federal grants—and the Hatch Act prohibits anyone who administers federal funds from running for elected office. Though Israel had already turned the grants over to other people to manage, he continued to supervise one of those people. And that, it turned out, was enough to put him in violation of federal law.

Meyer contacted the U.S. Office of Special Counsel, which administers the Hatch Act. OSC attorney Peta-Gay Irving told Israel that if he didn't quit either his job or the race, he'd pay the price for violating the Hatch Act: forced resignation and repayment of two years' salary. So, as Israel put it to the *Ann Arbor News* in late July, "I did the right and honorable thing by resigning from the prosecutor's office."

Israel went on to beat Meyer soundly in the August primary—but soon afterward, Meyer sent Irving an email that opened, "Alan Israel said that he did the 'right and honorable' thing by resigning in July, but the attached documents show that he has been paid all along."

The payroll documents Meyer had FOIAed did indeed show Israel getting regular checks from the county—even though he was no longer working. And that, too, violated the Hatch Act. "Although the Office of Special Counsel had earlier declared the case closed," says spokesman Anthony Guglielmi, "we reopened investigation because we learned that Mr. Israel has not retired. Until Alan Israel actually retires, he's in violation of the Hatch Act."



KATIE WHITNEY

Pittsfield clerk candidate Alan Israel is one of three local officials who ran afoul of the Hatch Act this year.

"I emphatically disagree," Israel responded in early October. "No, I'm not retired yet, and yes, I'm being paid for sick and vacation time I never used. But I'm not an active employee. I'm not going into the office. I'm not supervising anybody. But they make the rules, and I now have two weeks to remedy the conflict. So I have an appointment with the retirement office tomorrow, and my retirement starts effective this Saturday."

Taking his back pay as a lump sum solved Israel's problems with the Office of Special Counsel—but not with Meyer. "He tried to arrange backroom deals to get around the Hatch Act so he could run and still get all the benefits of keeping his job," she says. "Even if he does retire now, he's violated the public trust. I don't think he should run and I don't think he should be elected." In mid-October, Meyer announced that she and four others defeated in the August primary will run as write-in candidates in November. They're calling their slate "Honest and Experienced Leadership."

"The whole notion of the Hatch Act being applied locally is quite novel to people's experience around here," comments county clerk Larry Kestenbaum. "Absolutely it's happening more, and absolutely in ways that had not been intended. At the time the Hatch Act was written, local government didn't do federally funded initiatives, and it needs to be reconsidered in light of the enormously expanded role of the federal government, especially since 9/11. If this is what they want, the pool of potential candidates for local office is going to shrink dramatically."

Asked whether he thinks the Hatch Act was appropriately applied in his case, Israel declares passionately, "No! This is absolutely ridiculous! The way they interpret it now, almost no government worker would be eligible to run for office. You'll have to FOIA yourself before you decide to run to make sure you're not breaking the law."

MARK BIALEK

Elmo Morales at Elmo's Hideaway.

Elmo's Hideaway

A family business expands downstairs.

Elmo's Hideaway, beneath Elmo's Main Street T-Shirts, is no Birdland or Village Vanguard. Still, it sure gave owner Elmo Morales a thrill when his first paying customer was musician Dick Siegel, who reserved the place for an Obama fund-raiser. That's just why Morales opened it—to tap into memories of going to Greenwich Village hot spots with his high school friends, including a teenage Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (then still known as Lew Alcindor).

The Hideaway isn't fancy—it's essentially a long, narrow room with a serving counter, a stage, and a back room. But Morales hopes small groups will use it to tap into some big dreams of their own.

Morales ran track in high school, but since his school—in a rough neighborhood near Harlem—didn't have a track, he trained running up and down the hallways. He got so good that the U-M gave him a full scholarship. He says he and then–athletic director Don Canham ended up like son and father, and he credits Canham with teaching him how to be a successful man. "I identify with Jimmy Stewart's character" George Bailey in *It's a Wonderful Life,* Morales says. "I carved out a good life for myself."

He was Community High's gym teacher for many years, inspiring kids to be more fit. On the side he ran the T-shirt business and, with his wife, Susan, Bodies in Balance fitness—"We were the first ones to bring spinning to Ann Arbor," Morales says. "It's gentle spinning, not Nazi spinning." This spring he turned his other T-shirt shop, on East Liberty, into Arbor Annie's and Arbor Andy's, selling high-quality tie-dyed clothing and accessories by appointment only. It's "gorgeous stuff," he says—"forty-dollar, fifty-dollar tie-dyed dresses . . . the same fabric and tie dye for men, but T-shirts, dress shirts."

He took over the Hideaway space after Chess Express left early this year. At sixty-

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two, he's in good health, his wife is his best friend, their two kids are grown, and their house in Scio Township is paid for. So he was still smiling even when the Hideaway's first paying customer, Dick Siegel, had to cancel.

"Siegel got a call and was asked last minute if he wanted to be [Bruce] Springsteen's warm-up act," Morales explains. Instead of a small fund-raiser in the Hideaway, Siegel ended up playing the Obama rally at EMU's baseball stadium. "He had three thousand people," Morales says, happy for his friend. "It became eleven thousand when Springsteen showed up."

MARK BIALEK

Bryan Weinert says a solid-waste franchise could save businesses 10 percent or more on disposal costs—while boosting recycling.

Trash Takeover?

Most of the solid waste produced by Ann Arbor households is now recycled—but businesses still landfill 80 percent of their trash.

The city doesn't have much leverage to change businesses' practices, because its free trash pickup covers only the downtown area—everywhere else, commercial clients have to pay either the city or a private waste hauler. So it was a real challenge when city council told the solid waste staff to find a way to boost commercial recycling—without imposing any new taxes or fees.

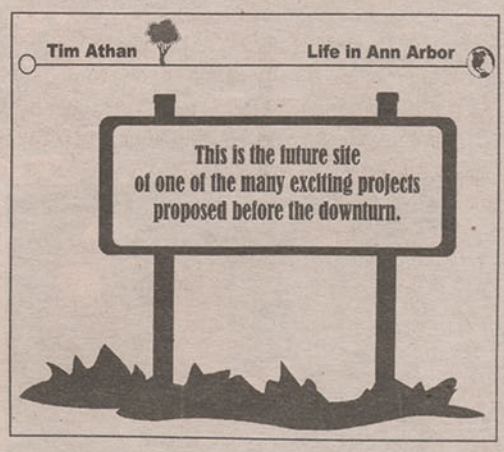
Their proposed solution: leave collection to the private haulers—but make them contract with the city instead of individual businesses. They've requested proposals from two commercial haulers for a single citywide trash contract. The winning firm would get a monopoly on private trash collection. In exchange, the city would collect an annual fee—and the rates customers pay would be structured to encourage recycling.

"The ideological reality is that most businesses need economic incentive to recycle," explains solid waste coordinator Bryan Weinert. With competing firms "hopscotching all over the city" to serve scattered clients, "it's kind of the Wild West in some ways right now," Weinert says. "Doesn't it make sense intuitively that it would be far more cost effective and efficient to provide a single hauler to provide pickup to all of those locations?"

"It could be a good thing in that the city could use its buying power to leverage lower pricing and get better customer service than the city itself is able to provide," replies First Martin manager John Teeter. But then Teeter adds a caveat: "It could be a bad thing if it's poorly run, poorly executed, and the city is just using it as a revenue generator for something else."

The franchise fee alone could bring in several hundred thousand dollars a year. Weinert says that money would go to support recycling efforts. But the real gain, he says, is that the fees companies pay would encourage recycling—for instance, by offering discounts if companies can get by with a smaller Dumpster, or with fewer trash pickups per week. The principle, Weinert says, is that "your tax dollars have got you covered for recycling—but if you want to throw it away, there's a cost. That seems fair to me."

Some property managers, though, are skeptical. "I like to pick and



question corner

Q: How much money does Pioneer High School make from football parking? And what do they do with it?

A: Renting out football parking brings in about $700,000 a year—but the money goes to the Ann Arbor Public Schools general fund, not directly to Pioneer. The schools take in another $300,000 a year renting various other facilities (for example, church groups meet in schools on Sundays). After expenses, the rentals earn the schools a total of about $800,000 per year.

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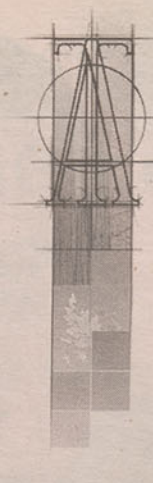

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choose [a hauler], because you can get more control," says Jerry Moyer, property manager for 101 North Main. "I don't want to have another layer where I would have to call the city who would call the vendor," concurs First Martin's John Teeter. "If there's a problem and you call the city, someone eventually gets back to you," Teeter adds. "My private hauler will respond on that same day."

And while Teeter supports recycling in theory, he doesn't want to end up paying more for trash hauling in order to support it. "Efficiency, level of service, and cost are more important to me than someone who is approaching this as 'We need more recycling—recycling is good no matter what the cost,' " he says.

Still, Teeter agreed to serve on a committee reviewing the proposals submitted by haulers Waste Management and Allied Waste. "We're participating," he says. "I remain cautiously optimistic." The group was still working in October, but was leaning toward Waste Management. Even after the city's fee and other costs, Weinert estimates, its prices could save the average business 10-12 percent on disposal costs.

Weinert stresses that the staff can only propose policy—not create it. "Ultimately," he says, "this is a political decision." Even if city council acts before year-end, the franchise wouldn't begin until next July—and full implementation would take another couple of years.

Sheer Pleasure

"It was the eyes that got me!"

With large eyes like obsidian rocks, alpacas have comic faces—and that's what hooked Greg Croasdill when his wife, Kara Heinrichs, suggested the idea of raising them. Now folks driving past their property on Stone School Road in Pittsfield Township pull over and gawk too.

When they moved to the country from Ypsilanti's Depot Town ten years ago, the couple wanted to use their ten acres productively. As a knitter, Heinrichs knew that alpacas' high-quality wool was comparable to the finest cashmere. Croasdill was happy to learn that the animals are valued alive, for their coats and breeding potential, instead of as meat. So they christened their property the Ann Arbor Alpaca Farm and bought three of the small South American ruminants. Forty-two alpacas later, the herd's paying for itself.

Despite the quality of domestically grown alpaca wool, the market for it is weak—low-priced imports from China have taken over this sector, too. Heinrichs uses their wool herself to make a small collection of hand-spun products, and they also sell to crafters who appreciate native-grown fibers. But most of their farm's income comes from selling breeding animals to other people who want to start their own herds. They've been selling about six per year for anywhere from $500 to $20,000 each. But Croasdill admits, "It was a little

MARK BIALEK

Kara Heinrichs and Greg Croasdill own the Ann Arbor Alpaca Farm.

tough last year. . . . The downturn in the economy has affected things."

Alpacas don't pay all of the couple's bills. Heinrichs continues to work as an office manager, and Croasdill does consulting and web design on a flexible schedule that lets him devote about three hours a day to the animals as needed. Fortunately, they're low maintenance. "All they really want is grass," he says. His major task is hauling manure to the compost pile, where in time it becomes grass fertilizer. "We farm grass," he laughs. "We raise alpacas."

calls & letters

Ann Arbor Framing

Our October Marketplace Changes story on the Arcadian Boutique slighted its predecessor at the corner of Main and Davis, Ann Arbor Framing Co. In a meeting, Ann Arbor Framing owner Lori Wintermeyer corrected our spring date for her closing—"I didn't close until July first"—and told the story behind her decision to shut the business she'd owned for eighteen years.

"It wasn't really because of the divorce; it was because of the health insurance," Wintermeyer explained. "I have MS—I need meds." When she could no longer buy extended coverage on her ex-husband's policy, she had to take another job to get insurance. Her employees kept the business running for a while, but eventually "it was either keep the store open or keep a roof over my head."

Wintermeyer's big regret is that she didn't get to say good-bye. "I'd like to say thank you to all my customers over the last eighteen years," she says, "and before that at the Needlepointe Tree for five years." For those who are wondering, she's still in Ann Arbor, and she's still in sales: "I can always be found in the window treatment department at Lowe's on Jackson Road."

Medical fund-raising

"I saw your short report in the most recent Observer, but was very surprised to see that you had used the wrong figures," emailed Judy Malcolm of the U-M Office of Development Communications and Donor Relations. Our October Inside Ann Arbor story on the U-M Health System's "Victors Valiant" ad campaign mistakenly credited *all* the U-M's fund-raising last year to the Health System. In fact, the Health System accounted for $82 million of the $300 million total. Our apologies to Malcolm and the development office for the error.

2936 Renfrew

Zo McCarthy called to say she couldn't believe a home in her neighborhood off Nixon Road really sold for $479,000. She's right, and last month's Home Sales Map was wrong: 2936 Renfrew actually went for $235,000.

Iraqi immigrants

To the Observer:

We at the University Musical Society want to thank you for the article in your October issue about the assistance Jewish Family Services is providing recent Iraqi immigrants [Inside Ann Arbor—"Iraqi Exiles," p. 11].

The article appeared just a few days before UMS presented a concert of Iraqi oud and maqam music in a tribute to the famous Iraqi musician Munir Bashir and to the Baghdad Conservatory of Music, which was destroyed during the war. The concert was performed entirely by Iraqi musicians who are regarded as among the best in their field.

Recognizing the difficulties that are inherent in resettling in a new country, UMS worked with Jewish Family Services to offer complimentary tickets to the concert for the Iraqi refugees and their families. We were delighted that over thirty people were able to come to the performance and enjoy the music of their homeland in their new country.

Thanks for another timely piece.

Regards,
Ken Fischer
UMS President

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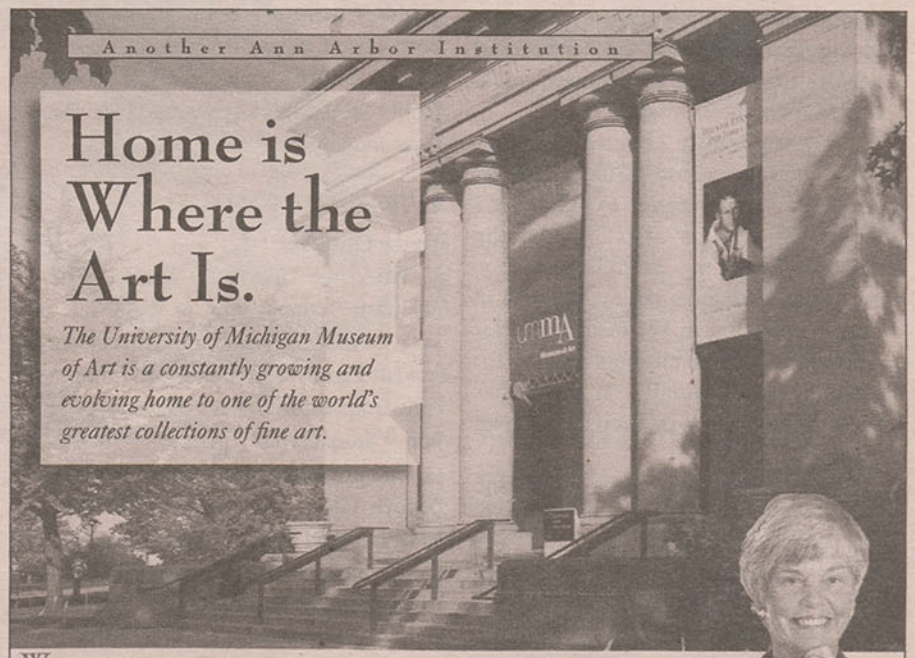

Within its halls are works by some of the world's most famous and respected artists. Names such as Monet and Picasso stand alongside modern masters, making the University of Michigan Museum of Art one of the world's greatest university art museums. It's safe to say that the museum is most definitely an Ann Arbor institution.

As an active museum friends board member with a deep appreciation for the arts, Carolyn Lepard is another Ann Arbor institution. She takes pride in the opportunity to experience outstanding art right here in her own backyard. To her, it's simply another indication that there is no town quite like Ann Arbor, with its mix of cultural elegance and down-to-earth residents.

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The other election

November's local races

by Eve Silberman
and James Leonard

Nothing brings out voters like a presidential contest—and even by that standard, the November 4 vote is shaping up to be exceptional. County clerk Larry Kestenbaum (see Ann Arborites, p. 23) says his office is preparing for the largest turnout in Michigan history.

Though most local races were decided in the August primary, two Republicans and one Libertarian are braving the expected surge of Democratic presidential voters. Ann Arbor voters will also decide the fate of three tax renewals and a city charter amendment—and send a new judge to Fifteenth District Court.

KATIE WHITNEY

"It's always the right time to run," says Republican Fifth Ward council candidate John Floyd.

The lonely Republicans

A presidential election year seems an especially lonely time for a Republican to run for city council in one of the bluest cities in the nation. But Fifth Ward candidate John Floyd, a self-employed accountant and Ann Arbor native, shrugs off the seemingly overwhelming odds. "It's always the right time" to run, he says, if you have something to offer your community. Besides, he adds, "no general election should go uncontested."

Floyd, fifty, says he was inspired to get into politics after fighting a series of proposed multifamily projects near his home on Sunset. Though all were defeated, he concluded that city government was unresponsive to neighborhood concerns—and that "uncontested elections—general elections in particular—were the root of [that] unresponsiveness."

Floyd emphasizes that he is running on local issues only—he says he has not asked for support from the Republican Party, or even other local Republicans. Interestingly, though, he seems to have picked up support from some disaffected backers of Democrat Vivienne Armentrout.

Concerned that more tall buildings will destroy Ann Arbor's blend of "small-town feel" with "big-city vitality," Floyd is calling for an eight-story height limit on new buildings downtown. He also suggests that his Democratic opponent, Carsten Hohnke, will "rubber stamp" the council majority and mayor John Hieftje in permitting denser development downtown—a charge that Hohnke dismisses.

Floyd has masters' degrees in public policy (from the U-M) and accounting (from DePaul University). His website is strongly focused on development issues, including the dramatic charge that "council's downtown development will raise your taxes." Because property taxes on new projects go to the DDA rather than to the general fund, he argues, "services to new downtown residents will be paid for by the rest of us." Instead, Floyd writes, Ann Arbor should be "emulating the European model, protecting the historic center of town by locating tall buildings at the edge of town and providing transit to the center."

Floyd emphasizes that he is running on local issues only—he says he has not asked for support from the Republican Party, or even other local Republicans. Interestingly, though, he seems to have picked up support from some disaffected backers of Democrat Vivienne Armentrout, Hohnke's opponent in the August primary. (Armentrout says that she has "decided not to endorse either candidate.")

Like Floyd, Hohnke, thirty-eight, is an Ann Arbor native and U-M grad; he has a bachelor's degree in computer science and biopsychology. After getting a Ph.D. in neuroscience from MIT, he is now an organizational consultant. Hohnke barely beat Armentrout in August, but he should have an easier time in November, since many Obama backers are likely to vote for local Dems as well. Although Hohnke contends that reports of a city council schism are exaggerated, he appears to be in sync with the supporters of Mayor Hieftje on council, and the mayor endorsed him in the Democratic primary.

Hohnke says he'll support expanding environmental initiatives, from recycling to commuter rail. He also believes his scientific and business background will help during difficult times—"I happen to be one of those weirdos who like looking at profit and cost sheets," he says. While he calls Floyd's proposed eight-story height limit "a little too simplistic," Hohnke says he doesn't want new buildings to be taller than existing ones: "I don't expect that we need to put any new peaks in the city's skylines."

If there's anyone lonelier than an Ann Arbor Republican, it's an Ann Arbor Libertarian. Mayoral candidate Eric Plourde told the *Michigan Daily* that he doesn't expect to win but is running to give exposure to the party's limited-government principles. He's gotten some coverage for his call to decriminalize alcohol possession for eighteen-to-twenty-year-olds—but in mid-October, Mayor Hieftje hadn't even bothered to gear up a campaign against him.

Settling the sheriff's race

When Jerry Clayton beat two-term incumbent Dan Minzey in the August primary, he became the overwhelming favorite to be the next Washtenaw County sheriff. But the first-time Democratic candidate still has to beat Dwayne Taylor, the first-time Republican candidate.

That shouldn't be difficult. Though Taylor received 5,538 votes in the primary, Clayton polled 16,027—and will presumably pick up the lion's share of the 13,709 votes cast for the other two Democratic contenders as well. Add in the tens of thousands of Democratic presidential voters expected to show up on November 4,

KATIE WHITNEY

Despite the expected flood of Democratic presidential voters on November 4, GOP sheriff candidate Dwayne Taylor says he's "very, very much expecting to win."

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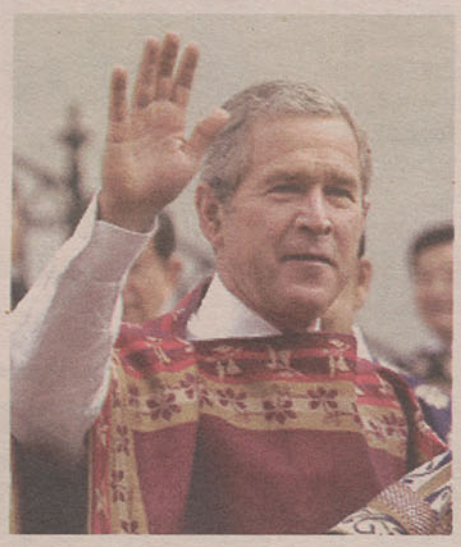

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and it's hard to see how Clayton could lose. Yet Taylor says he is "very, very much expecting to win. According to the poll on my website, forty-four percent of the voters are highly dissatisfied with the department and want change. If the voters really want change, they'll vote for me."

Clayton, forty-three, is a former sheriff's department commander now working as a national consultant to police departments on racial profiling. Taylor, thirty-two, is a fourteen-year veteran of private security firms now working for Great Lakes Protection Inc.

Both candidates criticize Dan Minzey. "Leadership is lacking in the sheriff's department," says Clayton, "a lack of internal direction, and not just in policies and procedures but in right and wrong." Taylor concurs: "We need a better leader, someone who will lead by example and demand a higher level of accountability from the whole staff."

Both also agree that controlling the department's budget is a high priority. "We have to manage our budget," says Clayton. "We have to be fiscally responsible—and the key is to keep overtime on budget." The key for Taylor is "equipment. If you can buy equipment for less that works just as good, then you should." Taylor acknowledges "overtime is a big deal" in the department's budget overruns; to control it, he says, he'll "require command staff work one day a week on patrol" and use unpaid "police reservists" to back up regular deputies.

Two parks proposals

They're not generating anything like the excitement of the state ballot proposals, which would legalize medical marijuana and loosen restrictions on stem cell research. But parks supporters are strongly interested in a pair of county and city votes.

Proposal A would renew the county's ten-year, quarter-mill parks tax. For a home with an appraised value of $250,000 and a taxable value of $125,000, the cost works out to about $30 a year; the money will be used to expand and operate the county's parks and nature preserves (see "Building the County Parks," p. 39). Defeat, while unlikely, would be "catastrophic," says county parks head Bob Tetens.

City residents also will face a charter amendment that would broaden the definition of parklands that may not be sold without voter approval. Mayor Hieftje says the amendment is needed to close a "loophole" in the existing definition. Not everyone agrees—Third Ward council representative Leigh Greden calls the amendment "redundant"—but if it does nothing else, it's likely to ease fears that the city might someday sell all or part of Huron Hills Golf Course. That anxiety is politically explosive—just last year, a write-in candidate running on the issue came within a hair of beating Second Ward rep Stephen Rapundalo.

Washtenaw Community College also is seeking an early renewal and Headlee restoration of its 1-mill operating tax. The millage, which would go into effect in 2011, would cost the owner of that hypothetical house $125 a year.

Joan Lowenstein points out one additional challenge facing Fifteenth District Court candidates Chris Easthope and Eric Gutenberg: "It's a huge ballot this time, and I'd bet a lot of people don't even turn it over to get to the judges—which are really important."

The two-man judge race

One contest this year won't be touched by the expected Obama tidal wave: the contest for Fifteenth District judge. The successor to retiring judge Ann Mattson will be elected in a nonpartisan vote.

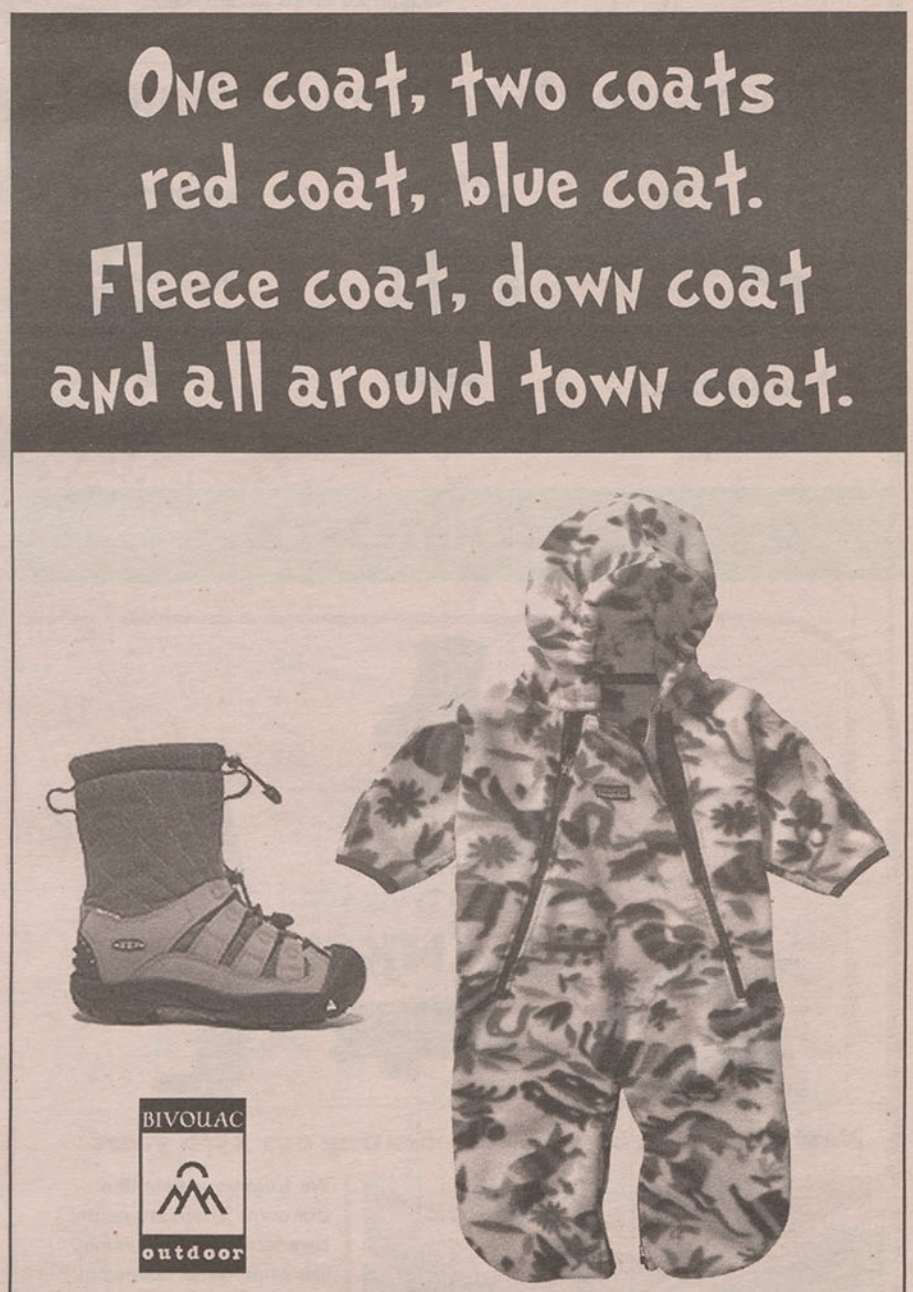
August's primary cut the field from four people to two: Chris Easthope, who's represented the Fifth Ward on city council since 2000, and Washtenaw County first assistant prosecutor Eric Gutenberg, who's been with the prosecutor's office since 1989.

Both attribute the August victory to hard work—and both think winning the November election will be even harder work. "In the primary election, there are about ten thousand likely voters," explains Easthope, "but in the general election, there are about sixty, maybe seventy thousand voters. So it's harder to hit every door."

Gutenberg says he'll "continue to do what worked before: knocking on doors and going to neighborhood events to meet as many people as possible." Easthope agrees: "Going door to door, getting your literature out, making phone calls, doing emailings—all these things are important. But the biggest thing is going door to door. You've got to do it every day."

Joan Lowenstein, one of the candidates eliminated in August, looks at the likely voter numbers and draws a different conclusion. Compared to the primary, she says, the general election is less a matter of personal campaigning and more "a matter of advertising. For a general election, it's impossible to knock on every door. Instead, you do advertising and mailings and have to get a lot of people to tell other people." While door-to-door campaigning is cheap, advertising costs money: Easthope estimates that between the primary and general elections he's raised close to $25,000, while Gutenberg's treasurer says his total is "just south of" $30,000.

Lowenstein points out one additional challenge facing the judicial candidates: "You have to get people to turn over the ballot. It's a huge ballot this time, and I'd bet a lot of people don't even turn it over to get to the judges—which are really important." ■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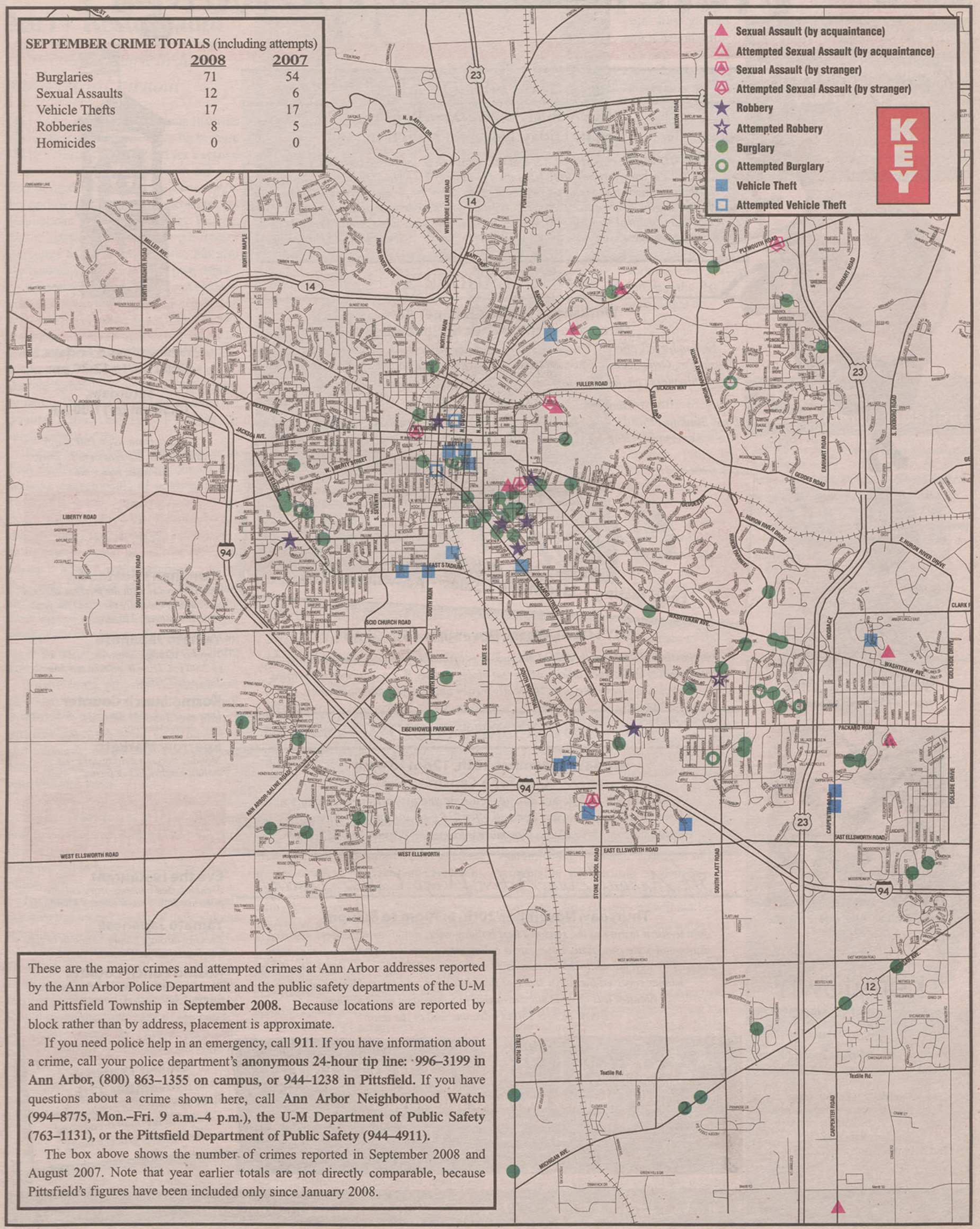
CrimeMap

SEPTEMBER CRIME TOTALS (including attempts)

	2008	2007
Burglaries	71	54
Sexual Assaults	12	6
Vehicle Thefts	17	17
Robberies	8	5
Homicides	0	0



These are the major crimes and attempted crimes at Ann Arbor addresses reported by the Ann Arbor Police Department and the public safety departments of the U-M and Pittsfield Township in **September 2008.** Because locations are reported by block rather than by address, placement is approximate.

If you need police help in an emergency, call **911**. If you have information about a crime, call your police department's **anonymous 24-hour tip line: 996–3199 in Ann Arbor, (800) 863–1355 on campus, or 944–1238 in Pittsfield.** If you have questions about a crime shown here, call **Ann Arbor Neighborhood Watch (994–8775, Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–4 p.m.), the U-M Department of Public Safety (763–1131), or the Pittsfield Department of Public Safety (944–4911).**

The box above shows the number of crimes reported in September 2008 and August 2007. Note that year earlier totals are not directly comparable, because Pittsfield's figures have been included only since January 2008.

November Happenings!

Kerrytown Market & Shops

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Saturdays 7am until 6pm
2nd floor merchants open at 9am

Sundays 9am until 6pm
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at FOUND

4th Annual Holiday Open House
Begins Friday, November 7th, 10 am

FOUND will be closed Nov. 5th and 6th, while elves take over the shop... magically transforming FOUND into a Holiday Wonderland featuring over a thousand new and vintage Christmas items! Our 4th Annual Holiday Open House begins Friday, November 7th at 10 a.m. Whether your decorating style is a woodland/natural look, or you like lots of "sparkle" and shine, you'll find it here like no place else. Check www.foundgallery.com for extended holiday hours.

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Book Arts - Nov 7th,8th,9th,15th and 16th
Book Binding - Nov 1st,2nd,12th,19th and 22nd • Folded Structures - Nov 6th and 13th
Letterpress - Nov 4th ,11th,18th,20th and 25th • Paper Arts - Nov 23rd

Kerrytown Open House

Sunday, Nov. 16th, 11am to 5pm
Food Tasting • Live Music • Sales • Activities for Kids

BUY LOCAL Week , November 15th-22nd

Supporting independently owned businesses is critical to keeping Ann Arbor and the surrounding areas such unique and great places to live. When you shop Kerrytown, you are supporting over 20 locally owned and independent businesses.

in ENCORE STUDIO

Sunday, November 16th, 12pm to 4pm
Cuts for a Cause

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5th Annual Ann Arbor Wine Cellar Tasting

Thursday, November 20th, 6:30pm to 8:30pm

Join us for a tasting of the season's best holiday wine, delicious appetizers and rich, European-style chocolate. Last year, a collection of nearly 150 bottles of wine were donated by well known local personalities and were raffled off at this event. One lucky winner received the lion's share of this collection - an instant Wine Cellar! Smaller lots of wine were awarded to subsequent raffle winners. Event Tickets $50 in advance, $60 at the door

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Sunday, November 30th, 5:30pm

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Kosmo Lunch Counter
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Kosmo Lunch Counter
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Closed Thursday, November 27th

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Larry Kestenbaum

The county clerk braces for a record turnout

If Larry Kestenbaum is biting his nails on election night, it won't be because he's worried about his bid for a second term as Washtenaw County clerk and register of deeds: Kestenbaum, a Democrat, is unopposed. Four years ago, in contrast, his Republican predecessor, Peggy Haines, had to contend with not only the intense pressures of a presidential vote but also the ignominy of recording her own defeat.

Kestenbaum liked Haines and respected her work in the two-part office, which also tracks real estate ownership. But as a longtime observer of local politics, he could see that county Republican officeholders were headed the way of the incandescent lightbulb. Concluding that sooner or later a Democrat would defeat even the popular Haines, he says, "I thought, 'It might as well be me.'"

Kestenbaum, a former commissioner in both Washtenaw and Ingham counties, is a walking encyclopedia of political trivia. Now, after years of career changes, it appears he has landed his dream job. Although "most normal people don't aspire to be county clerk," he reflects, "I'm enjoying it a lot. It really combines a lot of the things I'm interested in." Those things include (besides politics) computers, the workings of municipalities, and even genealogy—many tracers of family trees end up in his office looking for relatives' birth and death certificates.

Vital records, property deeds, minutes of county commission meetings, military discharges—all pass through the clerk's office at 200 North Main, some on screen and some over the counter. Adult adoptees come to track down their biological parents, and vice versa.

Occasionally people become emotional. Kestenbaum recalls a situation when a baby was born at home and no birth certificate was issued. To receive one, the baby needed to be brought into the clerk's office.

For reasons Kestenbaum never learned, the state had taken custody of the child. So it was a very tense group that showed up.

"The lawyers were there, including Geoffrey Fieger," recalls Kestenbaum. "The baby was there, the parents . . . Our staff people were terrified. They thought they'd be on the front page of the paper." Kestenbaum eased the "very sticky situation" by opening up a conference room, to give the parties privacy and time to cool off. He never learned what happened to the baby—but at least the child now has a valid birth certificate.

MARK BIALEK

Word is that the turnout on November 4 will be the "largest in Michigan history," Kestenbaum says, citing discussions with a state voting official. In 2000, 4.2 million Michiganians voted. The number climbed to 4.8 million in 2004, and "the prediction is that this year will be 5.1 million."

Kestenbaum, fifty-three, is a big, affable guy with a mustache and sideburns and a broad forehead framed by large glasses. He answers questions at length, and with a professorial manner perhaps inherited from his dad, who taught American history at Michigan State. His omnivorous interests are reflected in his labor-of-love websites: politicalgraveyard.com lists vital stats of, it seems, every American who's ever held public office, while potifos.com is devoted to his many other passions—such as folk music, elevators, octagonal houses, and names of streets. He also frequently comments on local issues on arborupdate.com.

Kestenbaum's background is as diverse as his interests: a largely self-taught computer programmer, he also holds a law degree from Wayne State, and he studied historic preservation as a grad student at Cornell. Before becoming clerk, he taught historic-preservation law at EMU and worked at the U-M's Survey Research Center.

Kestenbaum lives with his wife, Janice Gutfreund, a psychologist, and their daughter, Sarah, ten, in a 1950s ranch house in the Eberwhite neighborhood. Politicalgraveyard.com has gained him a national following—almost every day, he says, he receives an email question, comment, or word of thanks from political junkies who've found him through the site. Kestenbaum was dismayed when, after he became clerk, he was too busy to work on it for several months. He's since caught up.

As clerk, he is responsible for a budget of nearly $5 million and directs a staff of fifty. Currently they're bracing for the 2008 presidential election. Word is that the turnout will be the "largest in Michigan history," Kestenbaum says, citing discussions with a state voting official. In 2000, 4.2 million Michiganians voted. The number climbed to 4.8 million in 2004, and "the prediction is that this year will be 5.1 million," Kestenbaum says.

Before election day, the county will inspect voting equipment and will train more than 500 temporary poll workers. On November 4 itself, Kestenbaum will monitor the vote from his office, watching out for malfunctioning voting machines, shortages of poll workers, or any partisan challenges over voters' qualifications. Because he is also a candidate in the election, he will not be allowed in the polling places—except to cast his own vote.

Like people who commit baseball stats to memory, Kestenbaum has absorbed details of many political races in American history. And some acquaintances view him as both sage and seer—they assume he can predict tomorrow's winners from yesterday's races. Kestenbaum has been asked but declined to give an opinion on who will win the most important race of all in November—in part, he admits, because he doesn't want to look foolish if he's wrong.

"I can tell you as an absolute fact that Obama is going to carry Washtenaw County," he says, smiling. "That doesn't tell you much!"

—Eve Silberman

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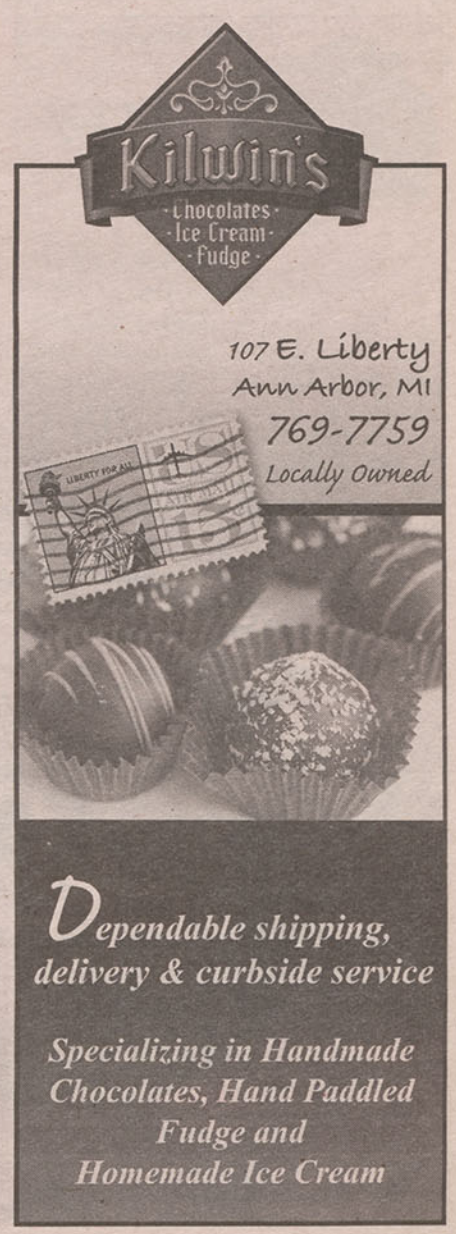
Judy Wicks is a national leader in the local, living economies movement. She is co-founder of the nationwide Business Alliance for Local Living Economies (BALLE), and founder of the Sustainable Business Network of Greater Philadelphia (SBN). She is also president of White Dog Community Enterprises, building a local food system and living economy in the Philadelphia region. Judy is the owner & founder of White Dog Cafe.



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Artist Martha Keller

The next brushstroke

Martha Keller's hair is thinner than Andy Warhol's but just as white. At eighty-two, she's begun to feel her age, but when she talks about painting, her eyes fill with the joy of a child.

After earning a master's in zoology, she worked in labs on the East and West coasts before marrying U-M engineering prof Robert Keller in 1952. They have two grown children and two grandchildren. In 1969 she earned a second master's, in fine arts, from the U-M. A painter for the last fifty years, Keller is a member of the collective WSG Gallery, where her show The Next Brushstroke *opens November 4. She spoke to Jan Schlain in her studio above Falling Water on Main.*

MARK BIALEK

Observer: Where was your first show in Ann Arbor?

Keller: At the Del Rio. That's where we showed our art—there was no other place.

The cafes are showing art now—Zola's, Sweetwaters—which I think is great. Even the hair place down the street has art in it now. I mean, you can look at art while getting your hair cut. What better thing to look at?

Observer: You've said that art is like love.

Keller: You know what love does to you—it puts you in a special sphere. When you love anything—love nature, love a person—you're in a stratosphere.

I think art is a kind of social glue. We all need other people. We are born alone, and we die alone, but we need people in between, and art is a venue for that.

Observer: Where does art school fit in?

Keller: You cannot teach art on one level. You can provide a place where artists can get together and study something. But the best students I had came as the best students. I mean, they just had a natural knack for it.

Cézanne was a bumbler early on, but he had a love of art that drove him. Like me—I don't like things that are too easy. I want to knock myself out.

Observer: What does that say about art?

Keller: Art to me mimics and models the human condition. You try and try again. That's the human condition.

Observer: So are people in Ann Arbor buying art?

Keller: I think people in Ann Arbor like art. I think there are a lot of reasons people don't buy it. There is a lot of it, and you have to spend some time asking yourself which one you like the best and which one you can afford. It's just another one of those complex decision-making processes. I think people want to be sure that they are getting something genuinely artistic and not by a fly-by-night person who just wants to sell art because people like to buy art—the Art Fair borders on that. It is full of artists who want to sell art more than they like art.

"When you love anything—love nature, love a person—you're in a stratosphere.

"I think art is a kind of social glue. We all need other people. We are born alone, and we die alone, but we need people in between, and art is a venue for that."

Observer: What is an art gallery's obligation?

Keller: The obligation of a gallery is to open the hearts and minds of viewers. The Matrix was a great addition to the gallery scene while it lasted. But of course it's gone. The Gallery Project is a great addition. They have a lot of out-of-town artists. And they're trying to be cutting edge.

We're just trying to do good art [at WSG] and provide a place for Ann Arbor artists who live and work here for a long time. We are lousy businesspeople, but we did sell a piece to some New Yorkers—a Kate Roesch [painting] for thirty-five hundred dollars to people on Park Avenue in New York.

Observer: When did that happen?

Keller: It happened when they delivered their student to the U of M. This is when we get a lot of visitors from out of town who are looking for something to do and they like art, so they come to our gallery—and we're on Main Street, and that makes a difference. So I think we are a story of hopefulness. We had three hundred people at the last reception. We have over a hundred people every Saturday. At the old place [on Liberty] we used to get fifteen or twenty.

Four huge canvases for Keller's show lean against one wall of her studio—the latest of many paintings she's made of two pine trees in the yard of a friend's home in Glen Arbor.

Keller: I nearly always do two paintings of the same subject, because I like to play one off the other, and one verifies the other—or negates the other. I probably wouldn't do that if I hadn't studied science. I am just now coming to that realization—that it is my two worlds coming together.

Observer: So what is art for?

Keller: Art is part of human nature. It appears to be part of our genetic makeup, because it appears in every human culture. It's a way to access parts of our thinking and feeling and being that can't be accessed any other way.

Observer: It can't be accessed any other way?

Keller: Not with a rocket going to the moon! There is nothing more interesting than another human being. I am hoping that someone [looking at my art] will see what I saw, or feel what I felt. I mean, it's all exploration.

Observer: Why did you call your show The Next Brushstroke*?*

Keller: I was talking with my friend Debra Campbell, trying to come up with a title—with a statement about what my show is about. And just [in] everyday conversation with her about my motives and what really interests and excites me, I mentioned the next brushstroke. I can't wait to see what it's going to look like with all the other brushstrokes. ■

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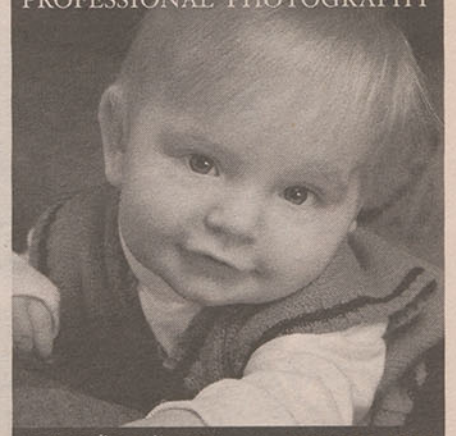
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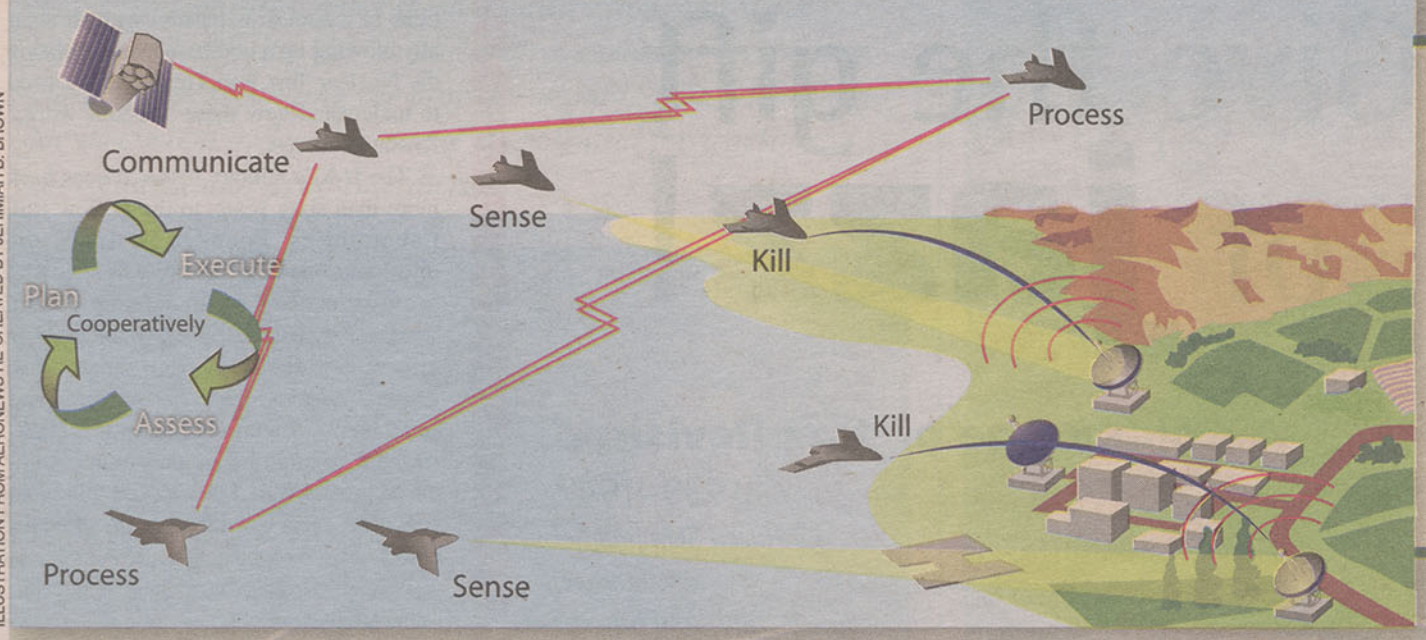


ILLUSTRATION FROM AERONEWS RE-CREATED BY JERIMIAH B. BROWN

From flying fish to mindfulness, it's amazing what U-M researchers are studying with military money.

by Michael Betzold

A research center in aerospace engineering studies "collaborative control of unmanned vehicles"—coordinating robotic air and ground vehicles and human troops in a far-flung battlefield situation.

An expanse of sky and treetops on North Campus spreads out in the windows behind Wei Shyy as he describes his work designing tiny planes that fly and perch like insects and birds. Talking about an insect's arms, the chair of the U-M's aerospace engineering department becomes so animated he runs his left hand down his own right arm from shoulder to wrist, almost as if he were flapping his own wings.

Shyy's research, figuring how to make robotic fliers modeled on hummingbirds and bumblebees, seems like a lark, the dream of a geek. But it's serious stuff. The air force is funding his research work to the tune of nearly $4 million, because the cute little creations could be flying spies.

"There's lots of potential to do antiterrorism work with these," Shyy explains, picking up a delicate paper model of a concept flier. "It's really like a flying sensor. In Iraq and Afghanistan a soldier could have one of these, have it fly out, and see what's going on ahead of him."

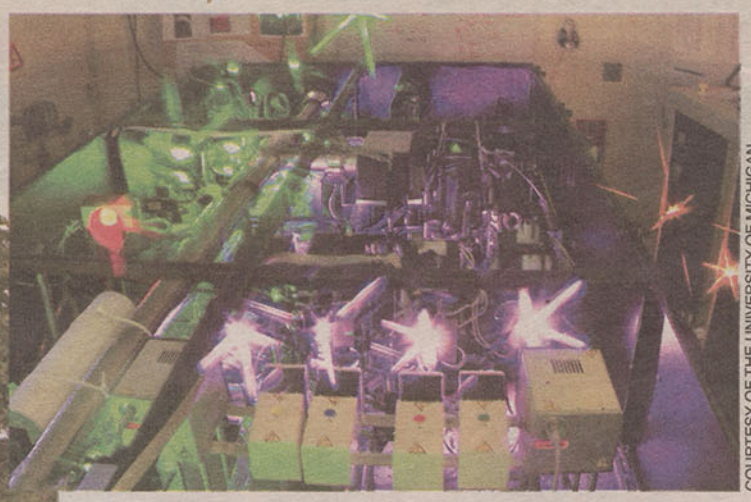
Shyy quickly adds that the slow-moving aerial robots could also be used to monitor pollution sites—or even be turned into toys. But it's not the EPA or Mattel that's funding him. Like many of his U-M colleagues, he has capitalized on Pentagon dollars to build his research career.

Forty years after Vietnam War protests forced the U-M regents to ban classified military research, no one's making lethal weapons on campus. But more than $200 million of Department of Defense money is currently underwriting everything from conceiving faster planes and more powerful lasers to looking for cures for prostate cancer. And no one is protesting one bit.

Today, defense contracts are the lifeblood of the College of Engineering. Entire centers are devoted to military research, and DOD dollars reach even into such distant corners of the university as the School of Information and the mathematics department. In 2007, the U-M received $596 million in federal research money—with 6.2 percent of that ($37 million) from the Pentagon.

MARK BIALEK

The navy got interested in Karl Krushelnick's high-intensity laser as a way to simulate nuclear explosions.



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Since 9/11 the DOD has poured money into anything that might be even remotely related to the war on terror, like Shyy's insect fliers. Other research seeks to improve conventional war fighting, like designing a new navy landing craft. And some, like the cancer research, is "military" only because it may improve how military personnel are cared for.

All the research is open to public scrutiny. The university's current policy, adopted in 1987, allows classified research, but none has been conducted at the U-M for many years, says Judith Nowack, associate vice-president for research.

"Faculty members don't like to do classified research," says Nowack. "It puts too many restraints on them."

According to data from early October 2008, military-funded research studies at the U-M have a total value of $214 million. That includes all contracts awarded in 2008 to date, as well as those dished out in previous years that extend into 2008 or beyond. The army is by far the biggest spender, sponsoring work worth $124 million. The navy is next at $40 million, followed closely by the air force at $38 million. Other arms of the DOD, such as its "threat reduction agency," kick in another $12 million.

It's amazing what that kind of money can buy.

Early this year, U-M physicist Karl Krushelnick produced what was billed as "the most intense laser in the universe"—a pulsed high-power beam that contains 300 times more energy than the entire U.S. electric grid. The secret to its intensity is that the beam lasts just 30 quadrillionths of a second.

The new laser was developed without military funding, and it could be useful in shrinking and economizing X-ray machines and radiation devices for cancer patients, among other potential civilian applications. But the navy anted up more than $900,000 for the next phase of Krushelnick's study because it also could help make better thermonuclear bombs.

"Our research has applications for making these kinds of fusion reactions more efficient," Krushelnick explains. His work will contribute to the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory's multibillion-dollar project to test "inertial confinement fusion." The tests will re-create condi-

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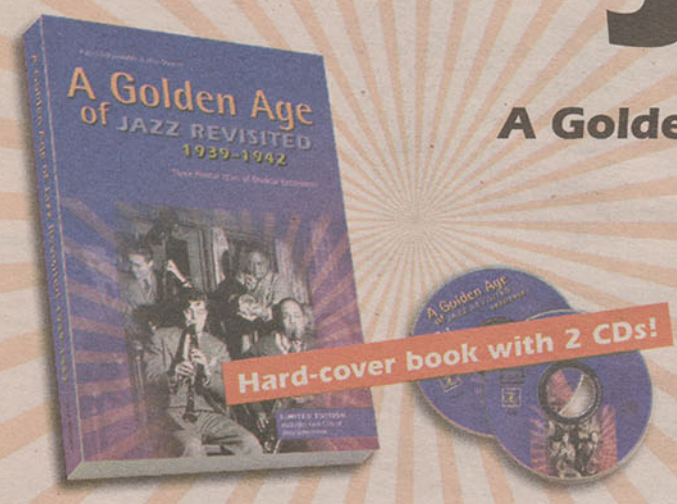

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tions of a nuclear explosion without actually blowing up a bomb, to avoid violating the Nuclear Test Ban Treaty. "They need to understand how these weapons work," Krushelnick says.

The U-M's military research goes back more than sixty years, to the Willow Run Laboratories. Founded in 1946, the university-operated facility was a crucial postwar center for reimagining modern warfare: it worked on early antimissile systems, synthetic aperture radar, holographic weapons sights, spy satellites, and smart bombs. But in 1967 antiwar students staged a sit-in at the administration building to protest WRL's work. The following year the regents voted to bar "classified research projects whose specific purpose is to destroy human life or incapacitate human beings."

The policy changed the shape of military research on campus but didn't stop it. In 1972 much of Willow Run's military work was spun off into a new nonprofit called ERIM. Many U-M scientists continued to collaborate with ERIM and other local and national defense contractors. And as memories of the protests faded, direct research on campus grew. The policy adopted in 1987 encourages open research but leaves a big loophole for classified work.

In recent years the "war on terror" has inflated Pentagon budgets and provided new or renewed raisons d'être for military research, such as projects related to surveillance and defense against biological warfare.

Pathologist Peter Ward has been working for years on U.S. Army–sponsored research on a mustard gas antidote. Ward's current grants include $888,000 from the Defense Threat Reduction Agency and a nearly $6 million grant from the army for an "advanced medical countermeasures consortium."

Elsewhere in the Medical School, allergist James R. Baker Jr. has become a renowned expert in biologic nanotechnology largely because of work funded by the Pentagon. Baker, who spent twelve years on active duty in the armed forces and served in Operation Desert Storm, is head of M-NIMBS, the Michigan Nanotechnology Institute for Medicine and Biological Sciences.

Since the 1990s he and his team have been developing "nanoemulsions"—microscopic liquid droplets made with soybean oil—for use as antimicrobial agents combating bacteria, viruses, fungi, and spores. First developed with funding from the DOD's Unconventional Pathogen Countermeasures Program, the lab's nanoemulsions have passed tests at the army's proving grounds in Utah for use in decontaminating humans, surfaces, and buildings.

M-NIMBS is now also studying different kinds of nanoemulsions that can be used as vaccines against flu, hepatitis B, HIV, cystic fibrosis, anthrax, and other diseases. Baker says his research, funded by the military to fight bioterrorism, has "moved almost entirely from military to

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Guy Meadows's solar-powered miniature seaplane can drift along or fly above deep water taking measurements of air and water temperatures, wind speed and direction, and wave heights. The "flying fish" could improve weather forecasting, but the navy is funding the project—at more than $1 million for its current cycle—because of its potential for wartime surveillance and drug interdiction.

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civilian [applications]. Most of the things we are researching have to do with medicines for the developing world." The technology was licensed in 2000 to NanoBio Corporation, one of two Ann Arbor spin-off companies Baker heads.

A year ago the Pentagon awarded $1.3 million to Baker to investigate whether a different kind of nanodrugs could be self administered on the battlefield—with a penlike device—by wounded soldiers or by comrades. In Iraq and Afghanistan, soldiers often can't be evacuated out of the field immediately to get painkilling doses of morphine. Baker's drugs have fewer side effects than morphine, and studies have shown quicker, more effective painkillers can reduce the incidence and intensity of post-traumatic stress disorder. Baker says the initial one-year development grant has been converted to a full four-year project.

Many arms of the College of Engineering thrive on military money. The department of naval architecture and marine engineering alone has $19 million in active grants, most of them from the navy. The money buys studies in ship design and simulation, as well as research on topics like the effects of vibrations on hulls and "real-time visually augmented navigation for autonomous search and inspection of ship hulls and port facilities"—using robots for port security.

For the last three years the navy has been researching what it calls the T-Craft. With fewer nations wanting to host U.S. Navy bases, "the navy envisions a 'sea-base connector'—like a big floating airport to store personnel and vehicles," says naval architecture chair Armin Troesch. The T-Craft would be a sort of amphibious transformer, able to sail independently to the sea base, pick up vehicles and troops, and deliver them quickly through shallow waters to land on all types of beaches. In 2007 the navy awarded Troesch and five other members of the naval architecture department almost $900,000 to develop "design tools" for the T-Craft prototype demonstrator. You can't build a prototype of a ship as you can of an automobile, Troesch explains, and even models are expensive—so his research mainly involves computerized simulations that can be used to test the performance of concept vessels.

His colleague Guy Meadows, on the other hand, actually gets to build his creations. Meadows has a boyish gee-whiz excitement in his voice when he talks about his "flying fish" project. Last year his team of researchers conducted its first tests of a pilotless miniature seaplane that can drift along or fly above deep water. Modeled after pelicans and other seabirds, with a six-foot wingspan and weighing about twenty pounds, the "flying fish" is solar powered and takes measurements of air and water temperatures, wind speed and direction, and wave heights. It's much cheaper than anchoring and maintaining buoys in deep water. An onboard computer keeps the drone within a two-kilometer range of a central point, and when it drifts to the edge of the circle, it automatically flies back to the middle.

Obviously, the "flying fish" could improve weather forecasting. But the navy is funding the project—at more than $1 million for its current cycle—because of its potential for wartime surveillance and drug interdiction.

There is an increasing appetite for this sort of research. Wei Shyy of aerospace engineering explains that the military wants to develop more sophisticated and flexible methods of spying on terrorists. The dream is to literally have a "fly on the

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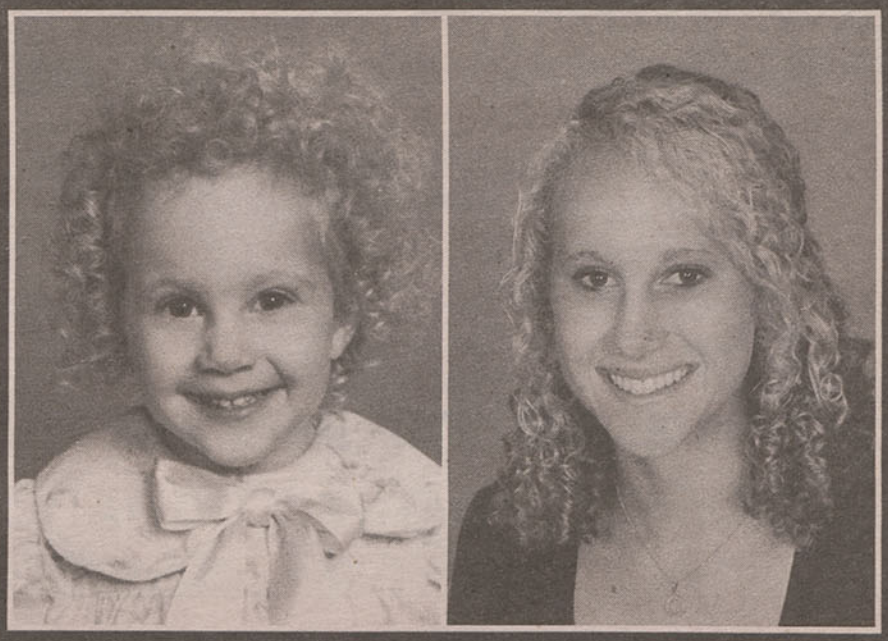

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wall" that would record meetings of plotters and then soar out to monitor their movements.

Aerospace engineering, one of the oldest and best such departments in the country, has joined several collaborative efforts to develop these and other new warfighting technologies. Shyy's own work on "flapping-wing microair vehicles" is a five-year project underwritten by the air force for $3.75 million (though Shyy expects that eventually the small fliers will prove more useful to the army). While the goal of this work is to imagine how light craft can fly exceedingly slowly, Shyy also heads the Michigan / Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) / Boeing Collaborative Center in Aeronautical Sciences (MAB-CCAS), which works on how to make big planes fly even faster. It has an air force grant of $2.25 million.

Also in the aerospace department is the Michigan/AFRL Collaborative Center in Control Science (MACCCS), which has a $4.1 million, fifty-three-month grant to study "air-breathing hypersonic vehicles" and "collaborative control of unmanned vehicles"—coordinating a large number of robotic air and ground vehicles and human troops in a far-flung battlefield situation.

Nearby on North Campus, the College of Engineering's huge W. E. Lay Automotive Laboratory hosts the army's Automotive Research Center. Founded in 1994, it involves eight universities and brings together academic, industry, and military researchers to model and simulate everything from commercial vehicles to army tanks. From July 2004 until July 2008, the army gave the center $40 million—the biggest military contract on campus.

Since 9/11 the DOD has poured money into anything that might be even remotely related to the war on terror. Other research seeks to improve conventional war fighting, like designing a new navy landing craft. And some cancer research is "military" only because it may improve how military personnel are cared for.

It's easy to see why the military wants to work with the College of Engineering. More surprising are some of the other projects it's funding at the U-M. A good chunk of the U-M Health System's cancer research is sponsored by the army—and has been for many years. Besides $9.6 million for prostate cancer research, army contracts current in 2008 include $5.7 million for breast cancer and $1 million for ovarian cancer. Med school researchers also get $1.1 million for research on inflammatory bone diseases and $2.4 million to study fibromyalgia and other chronic multisymptom illnesses. And this September four psychiatry professors got a $1 million, four-year grant to study "mindfulness and self-compassion meditation for combat post-traumatic stress disorder."

Helping military personnel handle stress is now a major research area—in Iraq, enlistees often must serve multiple tours of duty in a country where an explosive device might go off anywhere at any time. Among others, Huda Akil in the U-M's Molecular & Behavioral Neuroscience Institute and two colleagues are working on a $1.2 million grant from the navy to study how individuals react differently to chronic stress, focusing on "distinct vulnerabilities, neural consequences, and need for differential treatment."

The air force wants to know how pilots can work more efficiently at odd hours while suffering from jet lag and sleep deprivation. It's paying more than $300,000 for a project headed by Victoria Booth, a U-M math professor who has a joint appointment in anesthesiology, on "mathematical modeling of circadian and homeostatic interaction." Booth says there is still much unknown about "what drives the differences between various states of sleep and waking"—so she's building a mathematical model to "investigate the interaction of neuronal nuclei" in the brain.

In September, Lada Adamic of the School of Information finished a study on "identifying and harnessing expertise in online forums." Now she has a two-year, quarter-million-dollar army grant to study "information diffusion and evolution in online communities." Adamic declined to speak about either project.

Besides the inside of the brain and the depths of the Internet, far-out military-funded projects at the U-M extend into outer space. Seven professors in atmospheric, oceanic, and space sciences are sharing $1 million from the air force for a forty-five-month study of "the community whole magnetosphere model"—research to predict magnetic patterns in the upper atmosphere. And the Space Physics Research Laboratory is working on a $600,000 navy grant on "heliospheric signatures of the evolution of the solar magnetic field." Both these projects will be useful in coping with solar flares that disrupt communications.

There will be many more such grants in the years ahead—and the U-M is unusually well positioned to reap the harvest. In October aerospace engineering professor Werner Dahm took a leave of absence to become the chief scientist for the air force. At the Pentagon, he'll advise on where research dollars should go in the future. It's a sure bet that Michigan, with its long history of research and its current plethora of projects, will be high on the list for that military money. ■

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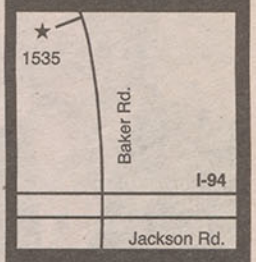

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The Bargain HUNTER$

by Vickie Elmer

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

A family once shut out of Ann Arbor home ownership now has a lawn to mow and taxes to pay. A young couple skipped a starter house and moved straight to a multibedroom family home. And a professional couple saved hundreds of thousands of dollars off an asking price from a few years back.

It's the silver lining to the housing bust. Jon Boyd, who's been a buyer's agent for fifteen years in Ann Arbor, says sellers have been "much more motivated the last two years." He's seen them cutting prices, of course—but also contributing money toward closing costs, offering a car along with their home, or even rewarding a successful selling agent with a big-screen TV.

Still, finding good deals is hard work, especially as the supply of homes for sale shrinks and mortgages become harder to obtain. Boyd urges caution, warning buyers to think about resale values and not to overlook serious flaws. "Sometimes people miss why it's a good price," he says.

The other big question facing bargain-hunting buyers is when the market will bottom out. Those who wait for still lower prices could miss out on a home they really like, warns Heidi Elder, a buyer's agent for the Bouma Group. But some are willing to take that chance—like a U-M prof who's decided to stay on the sidelines, convinced that prices may fall for several more years.

Looking long, starting big

Lily Sacks-Hubbard and Paul Hubbard began looking for a starter home in the summer of 2006. Ready to leave their north-side apartment, they visited four or five open houses every weekend, eventually collecting a stack of information sheets about three inches high.

"We had gone to open houses religiously every Sunday. That was what we did," says Lily, a part-time social worker at St. Joe's Hospital. (Paul was in mortgage sales when they started their search; he now sells tax and accounting software.) They eventually looked at more than 100 homes, including tiny ranches and foreclosed homes that needed a major remodel. They made six offers, and paid for so many inspections that their inspector started giving them a discount.

After almost ten months of searching, they saw a colonial house on Lillian with corner cupboards, a deck, and the big backyard Paul wanted—and five bedrooms upstairs. The house, owned by a Pfizer family, was bigger and in much better shape than they expected. They paid $205,000 and received 3 percent back in seller concessions, enough to cover their closing costs.

They've put their imprint on it, painting the family room a Merlot burgundy and the living room a sage green. Their parents gave them some extra furniture, but the 2,000-square-foot house still has room for more—more furnishings and more people. Lily's sister lived with them for a couple of months while she finished a degree at EMU. And they hope eventually to have children who will fill some of the bedrooms.

"This is not a starter home. This is our final home," says Lily Sacks-Hubbard (with her husband, Paul Hubbard). "With this one we just got lucky."

"This is not a starter home. This is our final home," says Lily. "With this one we just got lucky."

Their advice: Make a budget and know what you can afford. See a lot of homes. And find a home inspector you like and trust.

Skyline High and a financial hand

Nancy and Roy Birk knew they wanted to live near Skyline High School so their son, Garrett, could go there. They had previously owned a home in Missouri but couldn't afford anything in Ann Arbor when they moved here seven years ago. Nancy works for the U-M's Institutional Review Boards and is a doctoral student in education. Roy works for a vending company that delivers pop and coffee to the university.

They worked with Steve Wickland, a Charles Reinhart Company buyer's agent. They told him they could pay $175,000 to $210,000 and needed a place that would be large enough for them and their two teens plus dogs. They looked at more than forty homes.

"It was an adventure," says Wickland. The couple made unsuccessful offers on five homes. The lease on their rented Chapel Hill condo was running out, and Nancy admits she was getting nervous. But Wickland "was persistent," she recalls.

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Once shut out of the local market, the Birks found a home on Creal Crescent.

The owner of 1611 Creal Crescent, a neat 1950s ranch off Miller, was getting married and was motivated to sell. They offered her the asking price of $175,000 and got some assistance on the down payment through a program their banker

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found. The seller agreed to pay the rest of the down payment, their closing costs, and more—about $12,600 in all, including nearly $2,000 toward home improvements.

"The house was in such nice condition," says Nancy. It has shiny hardwood floors, a finished basement, and a fenced yard for the dogs. The only drawbacks are no garage and only one bathroom, but Nancy and Roy are seeking bids to add a second bath this winter.

The Birks' advice: Be patient. Bypass the "junk." And find a real estate agent who really knows the market and will negotiate hard on your behalf.

The condo and the single guy

Damon Grosz, twenty-nine, started seriously saving up for a home about three years ago while sharing an apartment with roommates. He read articles online on home ownership, and compared the costs of buying and renting. "I really wanted to make a sound investment," says Grosz.

He began shopping this past May, looking for places priced below $170,000. Grosz, who is single and works in facilities management at Crisler Arena, focused on single-family homes with a garage or basement—"I wanted to have my golf clubs out of my bedroom," he says.

He saw dozens of homes, but many, he says, were "in need of serious repair." At

Since homes in his price range needed serious repair, Damon Grosz's agent convinced him to look at condos, too.

some point his agent convinced him to consider condos too. In September, Grosz moved into a two-bedroom, two-bath condo in the Heatherwood complex off Lohr Road. It has a small study off the living room, and a huge master bedroom. It's on the second floor, so no basement, but his golf clubs fit comfortably in his one-and-a-half-car garage. And he considers the $133,500 price a bargain. He figures the fees of about $200 a month are part of the costs of ownership, and if he'd bought a home, he would have spent that much or more on improvements and services.

Grosz's advice: Check your credit and get your finances in order. Work with experienced pros. And keep an open mind: what you picture when you start may not be the best choice and best value you find.

The skeptic on the sidelines

Nationwide, one in five potential buyers has postponed a home purchase in the expectation that prices will fall further, according to a National Association of Realtors survey. Some Ann Arborites who can afford to buy are instead renting homes or condos and biding their time. Among them is a U-M professor who asked not to be named because he does not want to hear from angry real estate brokers. He studies the economy and real estate and expects home prices to fall for several more years.

When prices are falling, he says, owning a home is far costlier than renting. With the economy poised to go into what could be a "fairly severe recession," he says, "it makes sense to reduce your risk by renting." Taking his own advice, he's currently renting a house along the Huron River. Though he has looked at a few homes for sale in recent months and even put in one offer, he plans to stick with renting for a while.

His advice: If you do buy, drive a hard bargain and check websites such as zillow.com and realquest.com for a read on recent prices. If you can buy at least 10 percent below the market, he says, "you're protected [against price drops] for a year."

MARK BIALEK

The Freudenberg-Puricellis loved their house on Fountain at first sight.

The neighborhood and the history

When Tom Puricelli and Sara Freudenberg-Puricelli first saw their house on Fountain, it was vacant. The asking price was $175,000, the top of their range, and the circa-1895 house needed plenty of work. But they immediately saw its potential, picturing knotty-pine floors beneath carpet and aged linoleum, and crown molding added to the twelve-foot ceilings.

"We just looked at each other and said, 'How much do we need to give you to save this house for us?' " Sara recalls. "I could just imagine the Christmas holly going up the staircase."

And when they learned the house was priced at $100,000 below its assessed value and had the original claw-foot bathtub upstairs, they jumped at it. Their offer of $158,000 was accepted last December.

Within weeks, Sara was laid off from her job at Concordia University. But Tom's job at Menlo Innovations was going strong, so they went ahead with plans for renovations, some of which they did themselves.

Married for eight years, they've lived in Texas, at a girls' boarding school in Connecticut where Sara worked, and for a year on Concordia's campus. They have a six-year-old daughter, Markey.

They love their neighborhood, the refinished pine floors, and the wraparound front porch that still needs work. Sara, who sells Mary Kay cosmetics, stores her inventory in the closet off the dining room.

They've redone the kitchen, including new appliances and a granite countertop, but held the cost to about $10,000 by skipping contractors and working with Lowe's. Elsewhere in the house, electricity and plumbing have cost another $11,000 and refinishing the floors and other cosmetic fixes another $5,000, Sara estimates. But the result is a beauty: the original doors have fancy hinges, and there are a few antique pieces.

"I've always been a bargain hunter," says Sara. "And my husband has learned to be handy."

Her advice: Look beyond the cosmetic features of a house. "Be willing to make it what you want." And, she adds, "you can live in rubble" at least for a little while until you can fix the place up.

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Anuja Rajendra says her family got a "fabulous buy" on their Burns Park home—it was once listed at $720,000.

To Saline and back

Anuja Rajendra and her husband, Vijay Sankaran, liked the little Cape Cod on Revena that they owned a few years ago. But with a baby on the way, it suddenly seemed too small. They considered adding on to it, then looked around for a bigger

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home, and ended up in Saline in 2004.

They bought a wonderful home with a huge yard of more than an acre. But they soon started to miss Ann Arbor's culture and sensibility. Anuja says that when they turned off I-94, "my heart was always pulling me" back to Ann Arbor. Adds Vijay, "We've always been walking people, and our subdivision didn't have sidewalks."

Anuja says that when they turned off I-94, "my heart was always pulling me" back to Ann Arbor.

So in the summer of 2007 they decided to sell the Saline house and move back to Ann Arbor. By then they had two boys, Chakor, now three and a half, and Kabir, now two. Anuja wanted a place where they could walk the kids to school and would see friends and neighbors walking by.

They checked out larger homes in Burns Park, Ann Arbor Hills, and other neighborhoods. "It was our third house, so we knew what to look for and what worked for us," says Anuja, who grew up in Okemos and runs a fitness program called BollyFit. Vijay works at Ford's Dearborn headquarters as an information technology executive.

Their home didn't sell, so they decided to start again this spring. But they already had their eye on the house on Harding.

A gigantic gray place with a side yard, it had been vacant for more than a year. It had been priced as high as $720,000, in part because the former owners had added a mother-in-law suite and a master suite, giving the home five bedrooms and five baths in addition to its big living room and kitchen. Built in 1948, it was less elegant and less traditional than some others in Burns Park.

But by spring, the price had dropped to $460,000. "A fabulous buy," Anuja calls it—"really a jewel" with "a good feel."

So she and Vijay bought it before their Saline home was even officially for sale. They knew they would lose money in Saline, and they were nervous about the housing market. But they decided "it will all kind of even out," Anuja says.

They love their new neighborhood; they walk to Burns Park almost every day. They also walk to Trader Joe's and sometimes downtown. And they appreciate the home's spaciousness—Anuja's grandmother lives part time in the mother-in-law suite. They use a push mower for their tiny yard, instead of the riding mower they used in Saline. And if they occasionally grumble about the sizable loss they took to sell the Saline place, they remind themselves that Ann Arbor feels like home.

Their advice: When you're selling a home, says Vijay, be willing to cut your losses and not take low offers personally: "The old level of pricing doesn't exist in this market." And, says Anuja, "listen to your heart rather than advice you get from others." ■

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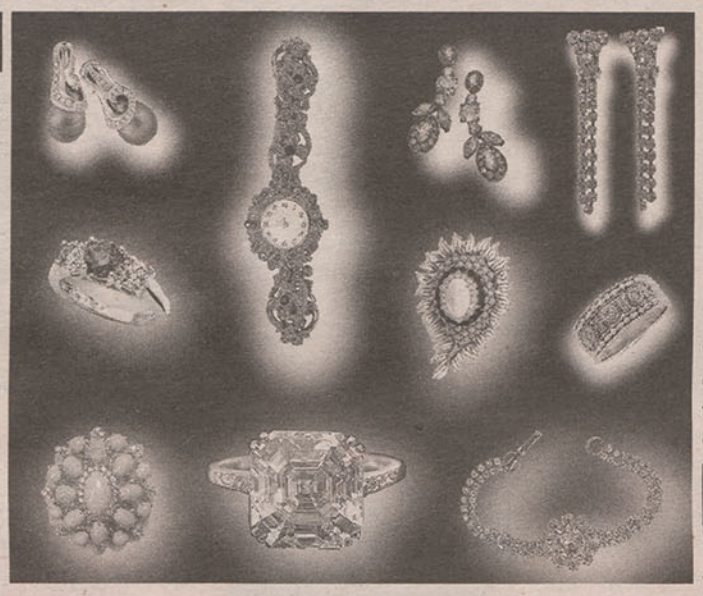

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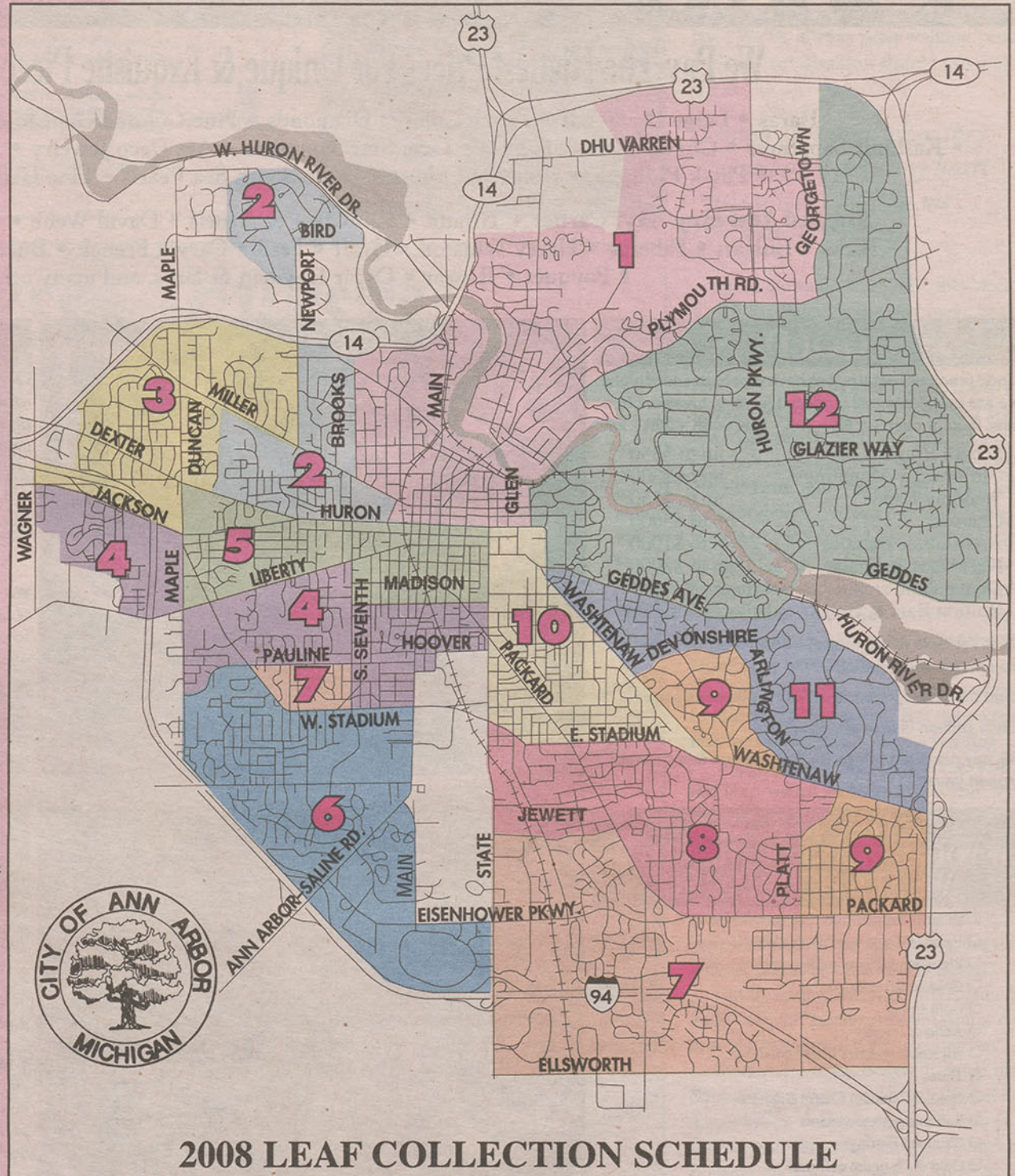

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2	Oct. 20	Nov. 10
3	Oct. 21	Nov. 13
4	Oct. 22	Nov. 12
5	Oct. 28	Nov. 19
6	Oct. 27	Nov. 17

SECTION	1st PICKUP	2nd PICKUP
7	Oct. 23	Nov. 18
8	Oct. 29	Nov. 20
9	Oct. 30	Nov. 24
10	Nov. 05	Dec. 03
11	Nov. 03	Nov. 25
12	Nov. 06	Dec. 01

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Street leaves will be picked up according to the schedule and map listed above, weather permitting. Street leaf pickups may be delayed if the city's trucks are needed to clear street snow. If the leaf collection schedule is delayed, new collection dates will be assigned. Call the Leaf Collection Hotline, (994-8131) for your revised neighborhood leaf collection date. If you have a concern or question, call the Street Maintenance Division, 994-1617 (Monday-Friday, 6 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.) or call 994-2818 (Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.). Please note that the order of leaf collection has changed to reduce conflicts with solid waste and recycling collection.

For more information about leaf collection and other city services, check out the city's web page at: http://www.ci.ann-arbor.mi.us

Building the County Parks

How a political gambit led to a popular institution

by Grace Shackman

(Above) Work begins at Independence Lake, June 1979. (Upper left) The Devine Preserve in Scio Township, one of thirteen acquired since voters approved a natural areas preservation millage in 2001.

It is hard to imagine now just how rare parks were in Washtenaw County in 1972. Ann Arbor and other big towns had their own parks, and there were the Metroparks on the river and the state recreation areas at the northwest edge of the county. But elsewhere there were only a few rest areas run by the Washtenaw County Road Commission. Former road commission employee Carl Thayer remembers there wasn't much to them—just "hand-mowed areas right beside the road with a picnic table and a green trash barrel."

Things began to change in 1972, when Meri Lou Murray ran for county commissioner—by default. As Third Ward chair for the Ann Arbor Democratic Party, Murray was responsible for finding a candidate for her county board district. But since that district was then considered a Republican stronghold, no Democrat wanted to run. The party told Murray she would have to fill the slot herself.

Figuring they had nothing to lose, she and her campaign committee decided to think big—and came up with the idea of advocating for a county park system.

Murray won in an upset victory that fall and went on to shepherd into existence a county parks department that now has twenty-seven facilities on about 3,400 acres. The county system has thirty-three full-time employees, more than 300 seasonal jobs, and an annual budget that ranges from $6 million to $8 million depending on whether the system is buying land that year. And it's long since expanded from rural parks to include active-recreation facilities and protected natural areas.

The Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission held its first meeting in August 1973. Initially, all it oversaw was four roadside parks inherited from the road commission. But things began to pick up the following August, when WCPARC hired its first director, Bob Gamble.

Parks commissioner Nelson Meade recalls that the search had come down to two finalists, but one took a job in a bigger community, and the other hesitated to come to a county with no park millage to fund its system. Then, toward the end of the process, Gamble applied.

After reading his resume, which included being director of parks in Nassau County, Long Island, Meade wrote Gamble to say, "You're out of our league. We can't afford you." But Gamble explained that his needs were modest and that he had lost the Nassau County job when the people who hired him were voted out of office. Although employed elsewhere, he was anxious to get back into park work. Meade recalls that at an interview in the county planning department's conference room, "Bob lolled in his chair, but he charmed us. We hired him instantly."

The commission still had virtually no budget, but one of the roadside parks, Park Lyndon, was surrounded by 205 undeveloped acres that the state had given to the county in 1960. Gamble got a federal grant to build a parking lot, a picnic pavilion, toilets, and a small cabin, and he recruited federally funded job training employees to lay out trails. Park Lyndon is now one of the jewels of the park system—"one of the premier nature preserves east of the Mississippi," according to current county parks head Bob Tetens.

Murray recalls that the commissioners themselves helped set up fitness trails, using equipment made by the job trainees in a hangar at the city airport. At the County Service Center at Washtenaw and Hogback, formerly a Roman Catholic seminary, they commandeered the old gym for exercise classes, ignoring the noise from the sheriff's shooting range in the basement.

Parks commissioner Bob Marans, a U-M professor of architecture and urban planning, arranged for students to survey county residents on their priorities for the new park system. Preserving open space came out on top, followed by a swimming beach and a park in the eastern part of the county. Gamble recommended creating parks at Independence Lake in Webster Township and on a property south of Ypsilanti with a small pond—today's Rolling Hills County Park.

In August 1976 the county asked voters for a quarter-mill, ten-year park tax. Gamble stayed up all night after the election waiting for the votes to come in. When the final tally was announced, the proposal was 349 votes short of approval. "Bob was devastated," recalls Nelson Meade. But the very next night the parks commissioners asked the board of commissioners to put the millage back on the fall ballot. They were worried that if they waited two years until the next countywide election, the land would be lost to private developers.

The night of the fall 1976 election, Gamble was so confident he went to bed at his normal time. He awoke the next morning to find that the millage had passed by 5,000 votes. Environmentally minded voters may have turned out in especially large numbers that year because the state's returnable-bottle law proposal was on the ballot—

Sandhill cranes at Sharon Mills County Park.

PHOTOS COURTESY WASHTENAW COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Q: Whose responsibility is it to maintain and repair the public sidewalks and walkways?

A: Per City Code, Chapter 49, Section 4:58, all sidewalks within the City shall be kept and maintained in good repair by the owner of the adjacent land.

Q: How do I report a sidewalk that needs repair? How can I check if my sidewalk needs repair?

A: You simply talk with the City's Customer Service Center at **(734) 994-2818**. This call will trigger a request to the Technical Services Unit for a sidewalk inspection. If repairs are needed, the City will notify the property owner by letter of the specific requirements to bring the sidewalk into compliance.

Q: What if the sidewalk damage appears to be caused by tree roots?

A: Please call **(734) 994-2818** to initiate an inspection by a staff person from forestry and/or the Technical Services Unit to see if a problematic root can be removed without endangering the stability and health of the tree. The property owner is still responsible for the sidewalk repair costs.

Q: Why doesn't the City make the repairs and bill the owners?

A: When contractor's perform work for the City there is additional costs for the contractor for Bonding, Insurance and the requirement to pay prevailing wages. Based on our Customer Service Survey we found the average cost for a 4" slab for homeowner's in 2005 was $130. The City cost for a 4" slab in 2005 was at least $170

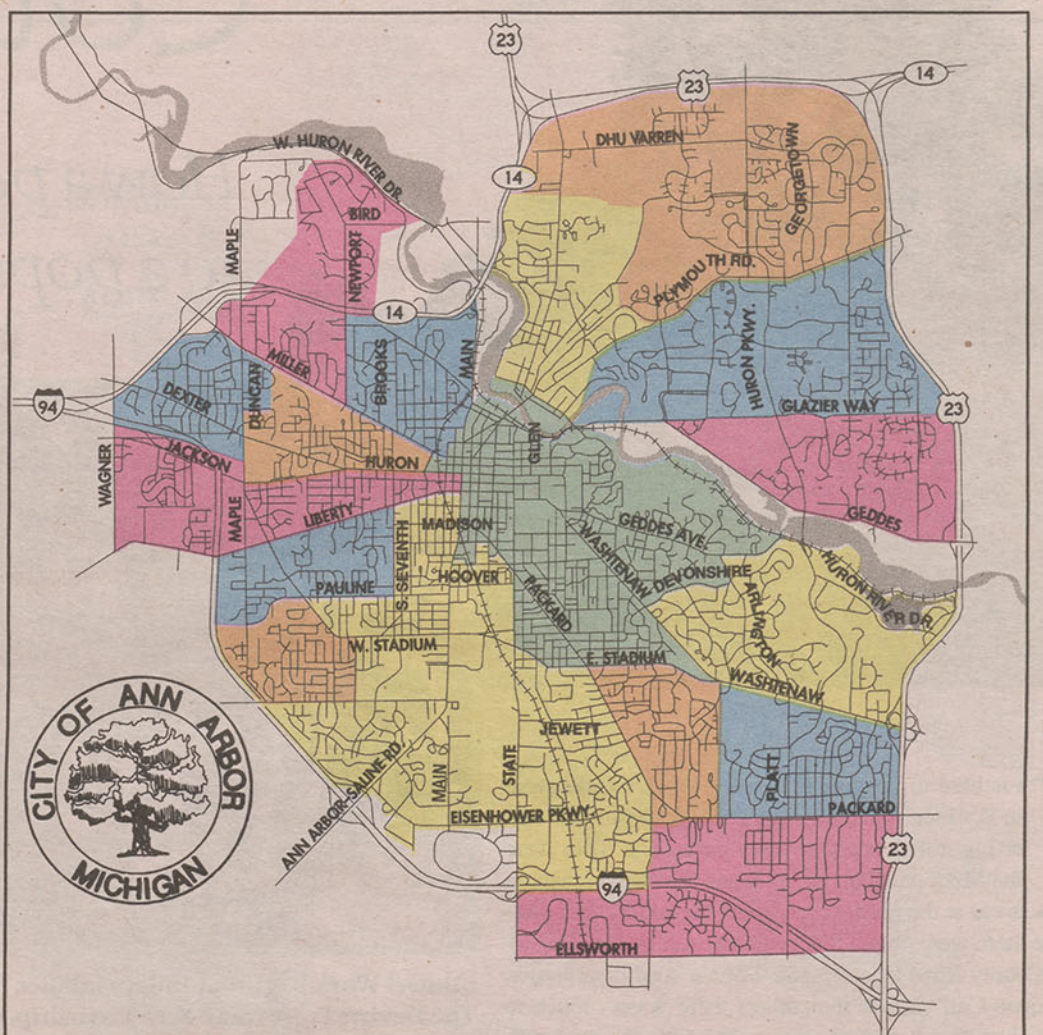
Q: If I don't make the repairs what will the City charge me?

A: The City will make the repairs and pass on all associated costs. In 2005, that would have been a minimum of $170 per slab plus project costs, which were $225 per address.

Q: Why doesn't the City find the contractor for the owner?

A: Based on our Customer Service Survey we have implemented a Contractor Pre-Qualification process.. The contractors on the list will be instructed by the City on the procedures of sidewalk repair within the City of Ann Arbor. Contractors will also be rated on their performance by the City and the Customer Service Survey. The ratings will allow us to remove or add contractors based on City and owner experiences.

CITY OF ANN ARBOR
SIDEWALK REPAIR
PROGRAM



SIDEWALK INSPECTION SCHEDULE

2006	2007	2008	2009	2010

The City of Ann Arbor has implemented an annual sidewalk repair program to improve the walk-ability of the sidewalks throughout the City. The program will inspect all sidewalks in accordance with the schedule shown on the map. The annual program does not eliminate the citizen request procedure. If you would like to make an inspection request, you may call (734) 994-2818 or send an e-mail to: Sidewalkrepair@ci.ann-arbor.mi.us

SIDEWALK REPAIR & REPLACEMENT PROCEDURES:

1. Property owners or contractors may obtain the specifications and standards for sidewalk repair from the City's **Community Services Area, located on the Sixth Floor of City Hall, 100 N. Fifth Avenue.**
2. If you plan to do the repair yourself, contact the Community Services Area to obtain a right-of-way permit to work within the public right of way 48 hours prior to the work; you must submit certified proof of insurance in the amount of $100,000.
3. If you plan to have a contractor do the work, have them obtain a right-of-way permit from the Community Services Area 48 hours prior to starting work. In order to be granted the permit, the contractor must submit a certified proof of public liability insurance in the amount of $500,000.

THREE REASONS TO REPAIR YOUR PUBLIC SIDEWALK:

1. Children, the elderly, and the physically challenged use our sidewalks daily. Poorly maintained sidewalks carry high risks for injury. Your help is appreciated to make sure all residents may travel safely along our sidewalks.
2. City Code (chapters 47 and 49) requires property owners to properly maintain the sidewalks and public walkways adjacent to or abutting their property for use by the public.
3. Properly maintained sidewalks decrease your liability and enhance the overall aesthetic image of our City.

Property owners may verify that a contractor has a permit by calling the Community Services Area at (734) 994-2674 at least one day before work begins. Hint: Multiple property owners working together may receive lower prices from a contractor.

More information is available on the City's website at: www.a2gov.org/sidewalk

Building the County Parks

but the county parks never again lost a millage campaign.

With a steady source of revenue, WCPARC won federal matching grants to buy and develop Independence Lake and Rolling Hills. Murray herself secured another key parcel when, after years of lobbying, she convinced her fellow county commissioners to donate the former county poor farm on Washtenaw to the park system. It's now County Farm Park.

Bob Gamble retired in 1980. His successor, Roger Shedlock, oversaw the opening of Rolling Hills in 1983, and the historic Parker Mill on Geddes the following year.

The original ten-year millage was due to run out in 1986, but the parks commissioners decided to put the renewal on the ballot in 1984. They were pleasantly surprised when it easily passed on the first try.

In 1985, Shedlock was succeeded by Fred Barkley, a former county and regional planner. In July 1988, Barkley went to a convention in Portland, Oregon, to receive an award for Parker Mill's trail system. "One day, while walking by the Portland City Hall," Barkley recalls, "I saw kids playing in water shooting up in a spray." He decided to add "interactive sprays" at both Independence Lake and Rolling Hills. At Rolling Hills, Barkley also replaced the original swimming pond with an elaborate water park complete with a water slide and a wave pool. According to Barkley, it was Michigan's first public water park.

By then, most of the original millage was being spent to maintain the existing parks. The commissioners realized that if they wanted to continue to buy land, they would need another millage, and in 1988 voters approved a second quarter mill. Renewals of both the original and new millages easily passed in 1994 and 1998. The county uses one for operations and the other for park acquisitions and major improvements.

An indoor recreation center opened at County Farm Park in 1990. Built in the shape of a barn to honor the site's history, it includes a swimming pool, a gym, exercise equipment, a walking area, and space for fitness classes. When Meri Lou Murray retired from the county commission in 1996, it was renamed in her honor. The Meri Lou Murray Recreation Center is now the most-used facility in the entire county park system.

Barkley's last big projects were the golf course on Pierce Lake near Chelsea, more improvements at Rolling Hills and Independence Lake, and the purchase of Sharon Mills County Park near Manchester. Most of these were finished by his successor, Bob Tetens, who took over in 2001. Like Barkley, Tetens is a former planner who exudes enthusiasm for the parks. He seems to carry a mental map of the county in his head: whenever a potential park site is mentioned, he knows its physical properties and whether it is for sale or might be in the future.

Sharon Mills, built in the 1830s on the Raisin River, had been a Ford parts plant, a home, an antique store, and a winery before WCPARC bought it. The county restored the mill building and added handicapped-accessible restrooms, a pergola, terraces, and a pavilion. Plans call for adding walking and mountain bike trails on 119 recently purchased acres across the road.

In 2001 voters approved a new quarter-mill tax to preserve natural areas. At the time the county had just one nature preserve; now there are fourteen, all of them accessible to the public. "People can't appreciate or understand nature unless they can experience it," says Tetens.

> Parks head Bob Tetens seems to carry a map of the county in his head: whenever a potential park site is mentioned, he knows its physical properties and whether it is or might be for sale.

The other big project since Tetens arrived has been the effort to complete a border-to-border nonmotorized trail throughout the county. Also called "linear parks," such trails open large stretches of land to the public. But they also require close collaboration with units of governments, individual landowners, and other park systems. "Some [obstacles] are difficult, some are expensive, but none are insurmountable," says Tetens. He predicts that when it's finished, the B2B trail will garner national recognition.

This year the county parks are thirty-five years old. With its second millage up for renewal, WCPARC has again developed a master plan describing what it will do with the money. For instance, since research shows a need for more sports facilities, the commissioners are working on an expansion plan for Rolling Hills that would include more space for disc golf and soccer and a "miracle field" with a rubberized surface that is safer for handicapped children and seniors. Similar improvements are being planned for the other parks. Also on the drawing boards is another indoor recreation center.

Tetens is very excited about the system's future. "More than any other land use, parks have the ability to transcend time," he says. "I am confident that the parks and preserves developed today will still be serving the Washtenaw County citizens a hundred years in the future. Parks are forever." ■

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November Events

130th Season 2008 09 UMS

Joe Lovano "Us Five" Quintet and Jason Moran

Joe Lovano saxophones | **Esperanza Spalding** bass | **James Weidman** piano
Francisco Mela drums | **Otis Brown III** drums
FRI, NOV 7 | 8 PM
Michigan Theater

Joe Lovano's new "Us Five" Quintet is reaching special heights where off-the-cuff ideas, rooted in jazz tradition, meet serious fun. His lush, inimitable saxophone sound will be on display within the contexts of both his virtuosic, two-drummer quintet and in duets with the exciting pianist/composer/improviser Jason Moran. The evening features solo piano ruminations from Blue Note recording artist Moran in addition to musical conversations between two of today's modern jazz masters.

Funded in part by the **National Endowment for the Arts** as part of **American Masterpieces: Three Centuries of Artistic Genius.**
Media Sponsors **WEMU 89.1 FM, Metro Times,** and **Michigan Chronicle/Front Page.**

Emanuel Ax and Yefim Bronfman pianos

SAT, NOV 8 | 8 PM
Hill Auditorium

Yefim Bronfman is widely regarded as one of the most talented virtuoso pianists performing today. Born in Russia, he emigrated to Israel at age 14. He "bucks the stereotype of the Russian soloist as merely a technical wizard of large sound and emphatic personality. He has technique to burn, but he also has a chameleon-like ability to subsume himself in the music." (*The New York Times*) Returning for the first time since his UMS debut in 1994, Bronfman is joined by the great American pianist Emanuel Ax, renowned not only for his poetic temperament and unsurpassed virtuosity but also for the exceptional breadth of his performing activity.

PROGRAM

Brahms	Variations for Two Pianos on a Theme by Haydn, Op. 56b (1873)
Bolcom	Recuerdos (1991)
Mozart	Sonata for Two Pianos in D Major, K. 448 (1781)
Rachmaninoff	Symphonic Dances, Op. 45 (1940)

Co-Sponsored by **Robert and Marina Whitman** and **Clayton and Ann Wilhite.**
Media Sponsors **WGTE 91.3 FM, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, WRCJ 90.9 FM,** and **Detroit Jewish News.**

Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir

Tõnu Kaljuste founding director and conductor
THU, NOV 13 | 8 PM
St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church

Reaffirming its reputation as one of the best choirs in the world, the Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir is especially admired for its performances of Arvo Pärt's music and presents a program of music by Pärt and another Estonian composer, Erkki-Sven Tüür.

PROGRAM

Tüür	Passion (1993)
Tüür	Requiem (1994)
Pärt	Occident Orient (for strings, 2000)
Pärt	Te Deum (1985, rev. 1992)

Sponsored by **Carl and Charlene Herstein.**
Media Sponsor **WRCJ 90.9 FM.**

Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra

Leon Botstein music director
Robert McDuffie violin
SUN, NOV 16 | 4 PM
Hill Auditorium

Leon Botstein has one of the most unusual resumes in the business: the Bard College president is founder and co-artistic director of the Bard Music Festival, directs the American Symphony Orchestra, and now leads the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra, originally founded in the 1940s as Israel's national radio orchestra. This UMS debut appearance features works by three Jewish-American composers.

PROGRAM

Sternberg	The Twelve Tribes of Israel (1941)
Bernstein	Serenade for Solo Violin, Strings, Harp, and Percussion (after Plato's "Symposium") (1954)
Copland	Symphony No. 3 (1944-46)

Sponsored by the **UMS National Council.**
Co-Sponsored by **Gil Omenn and Martha Darling** and **Jane and Edward Schulak.**
Hosted by **Thomas B. McMullen Company** and **Beverly Franzblau Baker.**
Media Sponsors **WGTE 91.3 FM, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers,** and **Detroit Jewish News.**

FORD HONORS PROGRAM

14th Annual Ford Honors Program, honoring the
Royal Shakespeare Company
Michael Boyd artistic director
and **Ralph Williams** U-M Professor of English
SAT, JAN 24 | 6 PM [NOTE DATE & TIME]
Hill Auditorium

Join us for the 14th Annual Ford Honors Program, which celebrates the partnership between the University Musical Society, the University of Michigan, and the Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC), whose first UMS appearance in 2001 featured the stunning productions of Shakespeare's rarely-performed History Plays. Michael Boyd, the Olivier Award-winning director of those plays, is now the artistic director of the RSC, which has presented three Ann Arbor residencies including 10 theatrical productions and hundreds of free educational events. U-M Professor Ralph Williams has been a driving force behind the success of these residencies through collaborating with Michael Boyd and the RSC, and also helping thousands of students and community members approach the works presented on the stage in new and exciting ways.

Immediately after the Ford Honors Program, the UMS Advisory Committee hosts a gala dinner, the largest fundraiser for UMS educational programs. Ticketbuyers may purchase only the event in Hill Auditorium or the event and gala dinner together.

Tickets Now On Sale!

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November Events

We want to know about your event!

Please send a press release (no phone calls, please).

By mail: John Hinchey, Calendar Editor, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104.

By fax: 769-3375.

By e-mail: hinch@aaobserver.com

After-hours drop box: right side of the Observer's front door facing Catherine.

What gets in?
We give priority to Ann Arbor events. Always include a contact person's telephone number. Please try to submit materials as early as possible; items submitted after the deadline (the tenth day of the preceding month) might not get in.

Next month's deadline:
All appropriate materials received by the tenth day of the month for the upcoming month will be used as space permits; materials submitted later might not get in (but will be added to arborweb).

arborweb:
The entire Observer events calendar for the month is available at **arborweb: www.arborweb.com.** This calendar is updated daily. If you have an event not listed in the print calendar, or want to update a listed event, please send it and we'll post it on arborweb.

WARNING!

To save space, many recurrent events are noted only the first time they occur. This includes many weekly and biweekly events. To find a full list of events for the last Wednesday in the month, for example, readers should also check earlier Wednesday listings, especially the first Wednesday.

www.arborweb.com

***Blackwater Ballad*, Nov. 7 & 8**

Carrie Newcomer, Nov. 8

FILMS

49 **Film Screenings** — *John Hinchey & Katie Whitney*

GALLERIES

51 **Exhibit Openings** — *Katie Whitney*

51 **Gallery Review**
Too Much Time: Jane Atwood — *Katie Whitney*

MUSIC AT NIGHTSPOTS

81 **Nightspots Schedule** — *John Hinchey*

82 **Nightspots Review**
The Chris Canas Blues Revolution — *Stephanie Kadel-Taras*

EVENTS REVIEWS

44 **The Doyle & Debbie Show**
Brilliantly god-awful — *Whit Hill*

53 **Saxophonist Joe Lovano**
A great tenor returns — *Piotr Michalowski*

55 **Cadillac Sky**
Texas-size bluegrass — *James M. Manheim*

58 **Michael Wex**
Born to kvetch — *Sandor Slomovits*

61 **The Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir**
Irresistible force and immovable object — *James Leonard*

63 **Eugene Chadbourne**
Down-to-earth transcendence — *James M. Manheim*

69 **Amy Hempel**
A world in miniature — *Keith Taylor*

70 **Joe DeVito**
Nerd mafioso — *Charmie Gholson*

108 **Events at a Glance**

Fritz Haeg, Nov. 8–10

***The Snow Queen*, Nov. 21–23 & 30**

1 SATURDAY

Bird Hike: Hudson Mills Metropark Interpretive Nature Programs. Naturalist Jennifer Hollenbeck leads a hike to look for birds and record their locations. Bring binoculars and a field guide. *8 a.m., Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. $2. Preregistration required. $4 vehicle entrance fee. 426–8211.*

★**"Sunrise Saturday Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Sat.* Very slow-paced 22-mile ride to Dexter for breakfast. Begins at sunrise. *8:07 a.m. (Nov. 1), 7:15 a.m. (Nov. 8), 7:25 a.m. (Nov. 15) 7:33 a.m. (Nov. 22), & 7:41 a.m. (Nov. 29), meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 665–6327, 913–9851.*

★**Volunteer Workday: Stewards of Shanghai Prairie.** All invited to help remove invasive shrubs from this prairie remnant on the St. Joe's hospital grounds. *9 a.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, meet at the picnic area parking lot behind the hospital by the child care center on the north side of McAuley Dr. Free. Preregistration required. 668–6354.*

Handcraft Sale: Sales Exchange Refugee Rehabilitation Volunteers. *Nov. 1, 2, 29, & 30.* A wide variety of handcrafted items by Third World artisans. SERRV is an ecumenical nonprofit marketing organization designed to provide a major alternative sales outlet for artisans in economically developing areas of the world. *9 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church (back entrance), 1501 W. Liberty. Free admission. Wheelchair-accessible. 663–0362.*

★**Family Day: National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) of Washtenaw County.** A day of learning and working toward recovery for mental health consumers, their families, and others interested in mental illness. Keynote speech by NAMI Michigan executive director Sherri Solomon, who discusses **"The Challenge of Hope."** Also, workshops on various mental health issues. Free buffet lunch. In conjunction with Mental Health Awareness Week. *9 a.m.–3 p.m., Bethlehem United Church of Christ, 423 S. Fourth Ave. Free. Preregistration requested. 994–6611.*

"Fun Fair": Kiwanis Club of Ann Arbor Downtown. A variety of family-oriented activities, including live jazz by the Paul Klinger Trio, Colors the Clown, a magic show, and balloon animals. Pancake breakfast ($3), 9–11 a.m.; hot dog lunch ($3), 11 a.m.–1 p.m. Also, the Kiwanis Thrift Shop is open. Door prizes. *9 a.m.–1 p.m., Kiwanis Activity Center, S. First St. at Washington. Free admission. 660–1023.*

★**"Dexter Breakfast Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Sat.* Beginner-friendly slow-paced (22 miles) and moderate/fast-paced (30 to 80 miles) round-trip rides to the Dexter Bakery. A very popular ride. Also, a slow-paced 8-mile **prebreakfast ride** to Zingerman's for coffee & conversation leaves 842 Greenhills Drive at 9 a.m., with a noon return. *Note:* Riders should be prepared to take care of themselves on all AABTS rides. Carry a water bottle, a spare tire or tube, a pump, a cell phone or change for a phone call, and snacks. *10 a.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St., or at Barton Park, Huron River Dr. Free. For information, call 996–4985 (Nov. 1 ride), 662–0205 (Nov. 8), 971–3610 (Nov. 15 & 22), 663–5060 (Nov. 29) , & 775–1156 (prebreakfast ride).*

Cyclo-Cross Bicycle Race: Two Wheel Tango/Tailwind Enterprises. *Nov. 1 & 2.* Races of 1½–2 miles through the park. Classes include beginner men and women (10 a.m.), expert men and single-speed racers (10:30 a.m.), juniors (11 a.m.), elite women (12:15 p.m.), master's men (12:15 p.m.), and elite men (1:30 p.m.). Awards to top 3 in each class and cash prizes for the top 3 elite men & women. Registration begins at 9 a.m. *10 a.m.–3 p.m., Veterans Memorial Park, 2150 Jackson Rd. $30 (elite riders, $35). 528–3030.*

★**Volunteer Stewardship Workday: Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation.** *Nov. 1 & 2 (different locations).* All invited to help city parks natural area preservation staff maintain the natural areas in various city parks. Wear pants and closed-toe shoes. Followed by short nature walks. Today: a trip to Scarlett Mitchell Nature Area to remove invasive shrubs and restore the native ecosystem. Also this month: help remove invasive woody plants from the **Huron Parkway Nature Area** (Nov. 2, 1–4 p.m., meet at the park steward's house, 3470 Woodland Rd. off E. Huron River Dr.). *10 a.m.–1 p.m., meet at Scarlett Middle School parking lot, 3300 Lorraine (off Platt south of Packard). Free. 996–3266.*

★**AAPEX '08: 34th Annual Ann Arbor Stamp Club Exhibition and Bourse.** *Nov. 1 & 2.* This show usually draws about 600 local stamp collectors and noncollectors lured by the beauty and history of numerous exhibits displaying postage stamps from around the world. Buy canceled cachet envelopes or bring your own. United Nations Postal Administration and USPS representatives are on hand to sell recent UN and U.S. stamps. 29 dealers from several states and Canada offer items for sale. Refreshments available. *10 a.m.–5 p.m. (Nov. 1) & 10 a.m.–4 p.m. (Nov. 2), Washtenaw Community College Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 Huron River Dr. Free admission. 761–5859.*

★**"Storytime for Boys and Girls": Waters Place Borders.** *Every Fri. & Sat.* Borders staffers "Ms. Kathy" and "Ms. Joan" read stories, lead sing-alongs, and play kids games. *10 a.m., Borders, 3140 Lohr Rd. Free. 997–8884.*

"Sciencepalooza": Hands-On Museum. *Nov. 1 & 2.* A popular monthly exhibit in the concourse area with hands-on experiments and activities. This month's program: **"Cataclysmic Chemistry."** *10 a.m.–5 p.m. (Nov. 1) & noon–5 p.m. (Nov. 2), Hands-On Museum, 220 E. Ann. $8 (members & infants, free) regular admission. 995–5439.*

★**"The 11th Hour: Turn Mankind's Darkest Hour into Its Finest": Gray Panthers of Huron Valley.** Screening of this 2007 documentary on the environmental crisis, a film created, produced, and narrated by Leonardo DiCaprio. Discussion follows. Refreshments. Preceded at 9:45 a.m. by coffee & socializing. *10 a.m.–noon, U-M Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 973–5593.*

★**"Saturday Morning Physics": U-M Physics Department.** *Nov. 1, 8, & 15.* Popular series of talks, aimed at general audiences, by U-M faculty and local physics experts. Today: physics professor Jennifer Ogilvie on **"Tricks with Light: How Microscopy Reveals the Biological World."** Also this month: biophysics professor Michal Zochowski on **"What Physics Has to Do with Brain Function"** (Nov. 8) and math professor Richard Canary on **"Non-Euclidean Sports and the Geometry of Surfaces"** (Nov.

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Judy Wicks
whitedogcafe.com

White Dog Dinner with Judy Wicks
Thursday, November 6, 7-10 pm at Zingerman's Roadhouse
Chef Alex Young presents a multi-course feast of local foods created from Judy's ***White Dog Cafe Cookbook***. Meet Judy, enjoy her personal stories and amazing activist anecdotes.

Edible Landscaping
Saturday, November 8, 10 am at Leslie Science Center
Sponsored by **Project Grow** and targeted at local gardeners, **Fritz Haeg** will describe his transformations of front yards into vegetable and fruit gardens and more!

Open Minds, Open Hearts, Open House!
Saturday, November 8, 5–7:30 pm
A Midwest-Casual Cocktail Party to Toast Fritz Haeg & Avalon! Enjoy a festive cocktail hour adventure—tantalizing finger food and spirits from local purveyors and chefs, and informal chats with Fritz in a charming Burns Park home.

Fritz Haeg
fritzhaeg.com

Sunday at The Earle with Avalon
Sunday, November 9, 2-4 pm at The Earle
Deep appreciation to **The Earle**, Avalon's loyal host of this annual giving of special recognition and awards. Our 2008 keynote speaker and Community Stewardship Award recipient is remarkable architect/eco-activist **Fritz Haeg**.

Fritz Haeg Highlights
Monday, November 10, 4 pm at U-M SNRE, Dana Building, Rm 1040
Co-sponsored by **U-M School of Architecture, U-M School of Natural Resources & Environment** and the **AIA of Huron Valley**, this fascinating collegial lecture focuses on **Fritz Haeg**'s art & architectural projects. FREE!

Fritz Haeg's
Edible Estates: Attack on the Front Lawn
Monday, November 10, 7 pm at Ann Arbor Public Library, Downtown
Book signing and Q&A. FREE!

Register for events at www.avalonhousing.org

Seating is limited at many events, so book your tickets quickly!

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All ticket proceeds and donations support the ongoing work of Avalon Housing and its mission to eliminate homelessness by providing affordable housing and supportive services.
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country music

The Doyle & Debbie Show

Brilliantly god-awful

How easy it would be to notice "The Doyle & Debbie Show" on the Ark's November schedule, quickly dismiss it as some weird Nashville country music/comedy duo you've never heard of, and not go.

And what a mistake that would be.

I caught TDADS a couple of weeks ago at Nashville's venerable Station Inn, where they pack in crowds of tourists and locals alike every Tuesday night. It's a bit like *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, with fans who've seen it dozens of times and know what's coming shouting stuff out. It's also great theater, wrapped around a gooey banana-pudding center of brilliantly god-awful country songs that somehow retain some dignity due to the humanity of the bizarre, fully realized characters who sing them. This is satire, of course—a full-on skewering of iconic country music duos—but it's also layered and complex, and it is capable of making your face freeze into the Grecian mask of comedy for uncomfortable lengths of time.

Here's the premise: "Doyle" (Bruce Arntson) is a B-level country crooner on tour with "Debbie" (Jenny Littleton), the latest of his sequined sidekicks. Dressed in matching, entirely overwrought appliquéd western wear, they deliver up such chestnuts as "When You're Screwing Other Women, Think of Me," "Fat Women in Trailers," "Stock Car Love," and the beautiful, artery-clogging ballad "Be Still, My Heart"—in which body parts (including some you never really thought about) are commanded to behave in certain ways, perform tricks, etc. For all their cleverness, these are well-crafted songs, tight as a drum and nattily arranged.

Courtesy of their between-song patter (and the tense "backstage" silence of the show's fake intermission), we learn quite a lot about these two—in fact, probably more than you'd ever want to know. Doyle leers and rolls his eyes, overtaken by the sheer power of his singing and by his horniness for a decidedly uninterested Debbie.

Arntson, the show's creator and primary songwriter, is a physical comedian of, shall we say, some considerable merit. There were times that Tuesday night when I thought there might be something truly wrong with him, like maybe a baby alien was about to saw its way out of his midsection. Littleton, though hardly the straight man, takes a subtler approach as she gamely smiles and prances through up-tempo numbers such as "Barefoot and Pregnant" or wields her mike through the heinous anthem "For the Children"—while her own three urchins (we are told) wait outside in the car for the show to be over.

Best of all, both Arntson and Littleton are fabulous, facile, creative singers with voices that flit from style to style as Doyle and Debbie (in their words) "perform all their top hits to the very best of their ability."

Doyle and Debbie make their Ann Arbor debut at the Ark on Sunday, November 2 (see Nightspots, p. 81).

—Whit Hill

1 SATURDAY *continued*

15). *10:30 a.m., 170 Dennison, 500 Church. Free. 764–4437.*

★Children's Storytime: Barnes & Noble. *Every Sat.* Storytelling programs and occasional craft activities for kids. *11 a.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★Storytime: Nicola's Books. *Every Sat.* Storytelling program for kids under age 7. *11 a.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★Warhammer/Warmachine Open Play: Get Your Game On. *Every Sat.* All invited to play these 2 tactical miniatures board games. Also, demos of some of the store's board games. *11 a.m.–10 p.m., Get Your Game On, 709 Packard. Free. 786–3746.*

U-M Exhibit Museum Planetarium. *Every Sat. & Sun.* Four different audiovisual planetarium shows. ***The Sky Tonight*** (11:30 a.m. Sat. only & 1:30 p.m. both days) is an exploration of the current night sky. ***Black Holes*** (12:30 p.m. Sat. only) is an animated show that begins with the formation of the early Universe and the birth and death of stars and concludes with a simulated flight to a supermassive black hole lurking at the center of the Milky Way. ***Stars of the Pharaohs*** (2:30 p.m. both days) is an exploration of the use of science in ancient Egypt to tell time, make a workable calendar, and align huge buildings. ***The Zula Patrol*** (3:30 p.m. both days) is an animated exploration of weather, both terrestrial and interplanetary. Also, in conjunction with American Diabetes Month, the Saturday schedule begins at 10:30 a.m. with a free showing of ***Our Cells, Our Selves,*** a kid-oriented audiovisual show about the evolution of the human immune system. *11:30 a.m. and 12:30, 1:30, 2:30, & 3:30 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. $4.75. 764–0478.*

Draw Doubles: Local 101 Disc Golf Club. *Every Sat.* All invited to play disc golf at one of Hudson Mills Metropark's 24-hole disc golf courses. Beginners are paired with advanced players to create parity. Prizes. Golf discs available free from the Hudson Mills Metropark office. *Noon, Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. $5 per player; free for spectators. $4 vehicle entrance fee. 449–4300.*

★Health Fair: Nutritional Healing Center. Booths by local, natural, and organic product vendors, massage therapists, and other healthcare providers. Also, free nutritional health screenings. *Noon–3 p.m., Nutritional Healing Center of Ann Arbor, 3610 W. Liberty. Free. 302–7575.*

Corn Maze: Talladay Farms. *Every Fri.–Sun. through Nov. 2.* Possibly Washtenaw County's most baffling corn maze, this vegetable labyrinth features over 10 miles of paths that form intricate transportation-themed designs, including a car, a boat, a semi truck, a school bus, and an airplane—all precision-cut with Farm Works software and a GPS unit. Take a flashlight if coming after dark. Adjacent to Wasem's Orchards. *1–9:30 p.m. (Sat.), 1–5:30 p.m. (Sun.), & 6–9:30 p.m. (Fri.), 6270 Judd Rd. (left off McCrone/Stony Creek right off the US-23 Willis Rd. exit). $6 (kids ages 5–11, $5; age 4 & under, free). 439–2313.*

Magic: the Gathering Tournament: Get Your Game On. *Every Wed., Sat., & Sun.* All invited to compete in a tournament using the standard construct-

ed (Sun.) and legacy constructed (Wed.) editions, as well as various other editions (Sat.), of this popular collectible card game. Also, a booster draft tournament ($15 includes cards) at 6 p.m. on Fridays. Bring your own cards. *1 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.) & 6 p.m. (Wed.), Get Your Game On, 709 Packard. $5. 786–3746.*

"Super Science Shows": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum Family Day. *Every Sat. & Sun.* Museum staff give family-friendly science demos. *1 & 3 p.m., Hands-On Museum, 220 E. Ann. $7 (members & infants free) regular museum admission. 995–5439.*

★**Health Expo: Calvary Presbyterian Church.** An educational expo with booths by health product vendors and nonprofit health organizations. Also, a bake sale. *1–4 p.m., Calvary Presbyterian Church, 2727 Fernwood (north off Packard east of Platt). Free. 971–3121.*

★**"El Dia de los Muertos: A Family Celebration of the Day of the Dead": Ann Arbor District Library.** Members of **El Ballet Folklorico Estudiantil** (Flint) demonstrate traditional Aztec folk dances and teach some steps. Also, music, crafts, and other activities celebrating this traditional Mexican holiday. *1–2:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Getting Their ZZZ's": Waterloo Recreation Area.** WRA park interpreter Kathy Kavanagh presents a program about the hibernation process and the animals that use it to survive winter. *2 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center, Bush Rd. (west off Pierce Rd. from I-94 exit 157), Chelsea. Free. Space limited; preregistration required. $6 vehicle entry fee. 475–3170.*

★**Ann Arbor Juggling Arts Club.** *Every Sat.* All invited to practice their juggling skills. Beginners welcome. Indoor location TBA in case of inclement weather. *2–4 p.m., U-M Diag. Free. 761–1115.*

★**Dinosaur Tours: U-M Exhibit Museum.** *Every Sat. & Sun.* 30-minute docent-led tour of the museum's dinosaur exhibits. *2 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free, but limited to the first 15 people to sign up for each tour. 764–0478.*

Kids Drum Circle: Oz's Music. All kids invited to join a drumming session hosted by Oz's owner Steve Osburn. Drums provided. *3–4 p.m., Oz's, 1920 Packard. $10. 662–8283.*

★**Cooking Demos: Morgan & York.** *Every Sat.* A Morgan & York staffer demonstrates **risotto** (Nov. 1, 15, & 29) and **cheese fondue** (Nov. 8 & 22). Tastings. *3–4 p.m., Morgan & York, 1928 Packard. Free. 662–0798.*

★**"Archetypal Images: Sponsorship Special!": Vault of Midnight.** Comic book writer **Eric Wilmoth** is on hand to sign copies of his new book. *3–7 p.m., Vault of Midnight, 219 S. Main St. Free. 998–1413.*

★**Ultimate Frisbee: Ann Arbor Ultimate.** *Every Sat. (tentatively).* All invited to join a pickup game of this spirited team sport played with a flying disc. The club also sponsors pickup games Wednesdays (Fuller Field, 6 p.m.) and Sundays (Mitchell Field, 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.). *Note:* Overly aggressive players are politely asked to leave. *4 p.m., Fuller Field. Free. info@a2ultimate.org.*

★**In Good Company African American Book Club: Nicola's Books.** All invited to join a discussion of ***The Chaneysville Incident,*** David Bradley's novel about a young historian who returns home to bury his guardian and, in the process, reconstruct his family's history. *4 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**"Halloween Party": Ann Arbor Quest Martial Arts.** Kids ages 6–14 invited to a costume party with games and food. *5–9 p.m., Quest Martial Arts, 2111 Packard. Free. Space limited, preregistration required. 332–1800.*

★**"Gourmet Dinner Trek": Of Global Interest.** Local adventure tour guide Heather O'Neal leads a 5-mile hike from the Old West Side neighborhood to the Huron River and back, with a potluck dinner at picnic tables along the way. Bring a dish to share, your own beverages, and water. Table service provided. *5–9 p.m., meet at 120 Eighth St. Free. 369–3107.*

"Under the Tuscan Moon": Father Gabriel Richard High School 25th Annual Superauction. Hors d'oeuvres, dinner (7 p.m.), a cash bar, and live and silent auctions of donated goods and services that include trips, golf outings, baskets, home goods, wines, and more. Live music by Gabriel Richard student saxophonist Matt DeDoes. Proceeds benefit the school. *5:30 p.m., Four Points Sheraton, 3200 Boardwalk. $100. Preregistration required. 662–0496.*

Band-O-Rama: U-M School of Music. The U-M Symphony Band, Concert Band, and Michigan Marching Band present ***Toe-Tappers,*** a program of various kinds of dance music. The opening act is the U-M Samba Band. *6:30 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $5, $10, & $15 in advance at the Michigan League Ticket Office and at the door. 764–0594.*

Freedom Fund Dinner: NAACP Ann Arbor Branch. Featured speaker is the NAACP youth and

November 2008 Event *Highlights*
Ann Arbor District Library

All events will take place in the Downtown Library Multi-Purpose Room, unless otherwise noted.

Sunday 2:00 - 3:30 pm — **2** — Director **Timothy Douglas** discusses the upcoming University of Michigan production of ***Pride and Prejudice***

Monday 7:00 - 8:30 pm — **3** — Webcomic author **Chris Onstad** discusses his famous comic ***Achewood*** and his new book, ***The Great Outdoor Fight***

Thursday 7:00 - 8:30 pm — **6** — **John O'Shaughnessy**, author of ***The Greatest Gift***, discusses his family struggles when his wife was diagnosed with cancer

Thursday 7:00 - 8:30 pm — **6** — **Kingsbury Marzolf** of the Huron Valley Architects Association discusses **Chicago's Architecture: From the Great Fire of 1871 to the Great Fair of 1893** • TRAVERWOOD BRANCH

Friday 7:00 - 8:30 pm — **7** — **Ann Arbor Smokes (and Cooks)** • **T.R. Durham**, owner of Durham's Tracklements and Smokery, discusses his new book, ***The Smoked Seafood Cookbook***

Saturday 2:00 - 3:00 pm — **8** — **Family Concert**: **African Drum Music** with musician **Kevin Collins** • MALLETTS CREEK BRANCH

Monday 7:00 - 8:30 pm — **10** — Nationally-known architect **Fritz Haeg** discusses his book, ***Edible Estates: Attack On The Front Lawn***

Wednesday 7:00 - 8:30 pm — **12** — Attorney **Susan M. Kornfield** discusses **Copyright and Culture Wars: How Federal Courts Have Become the Arena for Fights Over Music, Parody, Fan Fiction, Art and Fantasy Sports**

Wednesday 7:00 - 8:30 pm — **12** — **Mothers Unedited! Frank Talk About Sending Your Kid to College** • MALLETTS CREEK BRANCH

Wednesday 7:00 - 8:30 pm — **12** — **Snowboarding/Kiteboarding 101** with the experts from **Red Belly Boardshop** • GRADE 6 - ADULT • PITTSFIELD BRANCH

Thursday 7:00 - 8:30 pm — **13** — **The Brass Sisters Return to AADL** and discuss their new book, ***Heirloom Cooking with the Brass Sisters***

Friday 7:00 - 8:30 pm — **14** — **The Great American Nerdfighter Tour** with award-winning Young Adult novelist **John Green** and his brother **Hank Green,** founder of **EcoGeek.org** • GRADE 6 - ADULT

Saturday 1:00 - 5:00 pm — **15** — **National Gaming in Libraries Day: DDR** and **Brawl** ALL AGES • MALLETTS CREEK BRANCH

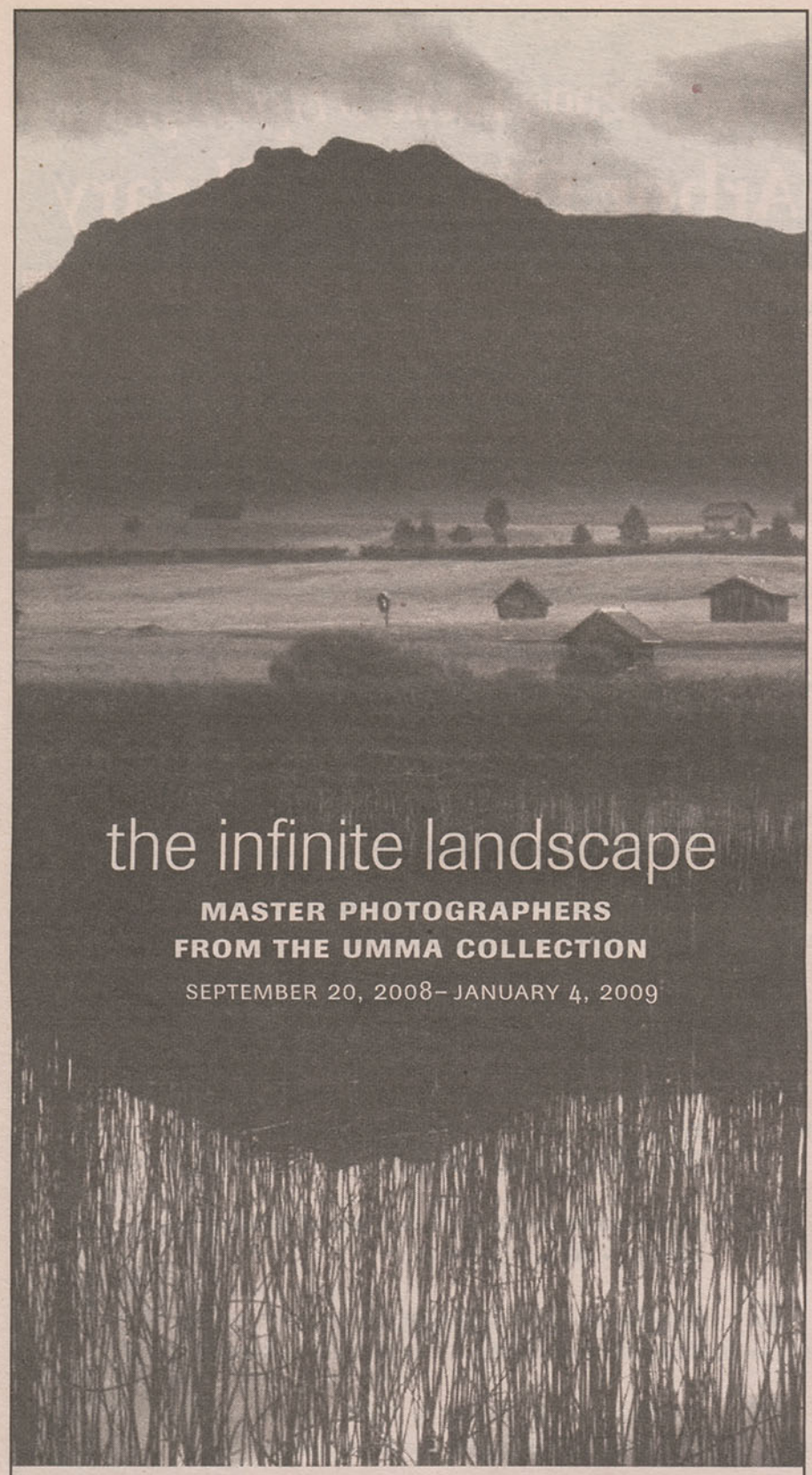
Sunday 2:00 - 4:00 pm — **16** — **The History of the University of Michigan Medical School** presented by **David Bloom, MD**

Tuesday 7:00 - 8:30 pm — **18** — **Bright Nights™ Community Forum • Depression Treatments: The Promise of Personalized Medicine** moderated by **Melvin McInnis, MD** of the **University of Michigan Depression Center**

Thursday 6:30 - 8:30 pm — **20** — **Film & Discussion:** ***Traces of the Trade*** • NOT RATED GRADE 9 - ADULT • DOWNTOWN 4TH FLOOR MEETING ROOM

Saturday 12:00 - 3:00 pm — **22** — **National Survivors of Suicide Day Teleconference** MALLETTS CREEK BRANCH

For more information, call 327.4200 or visit our website at aadl.org



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This exhibition is made possible in part by Ernestine and Herbert Ruben and the University of Michigan Credit Union.

Brett Weston, *Landscape, Germany*, from the portfolio *Brett Weston Europe*, 1960, gelatin silver print, Museum Purchase, 1978/2.34.

1 SATURDAY *continued*

college division director **Stefanie L. Brown.** The program also honors African American students in the Ann Arbor Public Schools who have maintained a 3.2 grade-point average or better over the past academic year. *6:30 p.m., Four Points Sheraton Inn, 3200 Boardwalk. $50 in advance only. (Sponsor a scholar, $35.) 761–9084.*

"Gran Celebracion de Dia de Muertos": Alebrije Productions, *Nov. 1 & 2.* The local Latino cultural group **Alebrije,** directed by Carmen Perez-Flores, celebrates this major Mexican tradition with a performance of *Danza con la Muerte,* a collage (performed in Spanish) of music, songs, poetry, comedy, drama, and folk dance. Age 18 & older admitted. *6:30–9:30 p.m., Papi O' nightclub, 2275 Ellsworth, Ypsilanti. $10 in advance, $15 at the door. 330–1890, 678–3207.*

★Karyna McGlynn: Shaman Drum Bookshop. This Concordia University (Austin, Texas) adjunct English professor, a U-M creative writing grad student who has been a member of the Ann Arbor, Austin, and Seattle National Poetry Slam teams, reads from ***Alabama Steve,*** her new collection of poems featuring an anonymous speaker adrift amid a panoply of Steves in a fantasyland where date-raping praying mantises become gay flight attendants, Beowulf rides a chopper through Canada, and skull-licking is common practice among the academic elite. Signing. *7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

Miss Washtenaw County Pageant. Michigan Football Network radio personality Lucy Ann Lance emcees this 14th annual competition, an affiliate of the Miss America Pageant. Appearances by Miss Michigan Ashlee Baracy and Miss Illinois Katie Lorenz. The winner goes on to the 2009 Miss Michigan Pageant. Preceded by the Miss Michigan Outstanding Teen Pageant (2:30 p.m., tickets $10, ages 6–12, $5). *7 p.m., Chelsea High School Auditorium, 740 N. Freer (between Old US-12 and Washington St.), Chelsea. Tickets $15 (ages 6–12, $6) at the door. 475–2734.*

15th Annual Hometown Concert: Saline Fiddlers. Traditional American fiddle songs, bluegrass, and high-energy American folk by this renowned touring fiddle ensemble of 30 Saline students. Tonight's guest headliner is **The Elders,** a Celtic-influenced roots-rock band from Kansas City. The Fiddlers' shows always sell out, so get your tickets early. *7 p.m., Saline High School auditorium, 1300 Campus Pkwy. (off Industrial, north from E. Michigan), Saline. $10–$20 in advance at salinefiddlers.com. (866) 257–5333.*

★U-M Men's Soccer vs. Ohio State. *7 p.m., U-M Soccer Field, S. State at Hoover. Free. 763–2159.*

U-M Ice Hockey vs. Ohio State. *Oct. 31 & Nov. 1. 7:30 p.m., Yost Ice Arena, 1016 S. State at McKinley. $12–$17. 764–0247.*

"Night Terrors": Wiard's Orchards. *Every Fri.–Sun. through Nov. 1, and Oct. 30.* Six different scary areas bristling with over 115 live monsters, including Alien Caged Clowns. Also, the Old West hayride through a haunted village, the revamped Asylum, the loopy Labyrinth, the horrifying Haunted Barn, and the maddening Mined Shaft. Scareoke. Refreshments available. *7:30–11 p.m., 5565 Merritt Rd., Ypsilanti. $15 for access to one area; $27 for all areas. 482–7744.*

Dexter Twirlers Square Dance Club. *Nov. 1 & 15.* Glen Geer calls square dances for experienced dancers to recorded music. No partner necessary. Wear soft-soled shoes (not tennis shoes). *7:30 p.m., St. Andrew's Church, 7610 Ann Arbor St., Dexter. $5. 433–0308.*

★"Side Man": U-M Basement Arts. *Oct. 30–Nov. 2.* U-M theater student Jane Deegan directs Warren Leight's poignant 1998 Tony-winning semiautobiographical drama. When a 30-year-old returns to New York to hear his estranged father play jazz trumpet, he is tortured by painful childhood memories of an alcoholic, unstable mother and a cold, absent father. *Time TBA, U-M Walgreen Drama Center Studio 1, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. basement@umich.edu.*

1st Saturday Contra: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Glen Morningstar calls to folk music by Alan Jabbour and Ken Perlman (see 2 Sunday). No partner needed; all dances taught. Wear cool, casual clothes and flat, smooth-soled shoes for dancing. Also, a free open jam for string and other musicians, 3–6 p.m. *8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). $10 (members, $9; students, $5). 769–1052.*

"9th Annual MACCFest": Michigan A Cappella Council. A showcase of 14 U-M a cappella groups featuring performances by the Dicks & Janes, 58 Greene, the Compulsive Lyres, the Friars, the G-men, Gimble, Good News, the Harmonettes, the Headnotes, Kol Hakavod, the Kopitonez, Maize Mirchi, the Sopranos, and Amazin' Blue. *8 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. $10. (248) 410–5841.*

"Jack Goes Boating": Blackbird Theatre. *Every Fri.–Sun. (except Nov. 2), Oct. 31–Nov. 22.* Michael Williams directs local actors in the Michigan premier of Bob Glaudini's offbeat romantic comedy about a New York limo driver and Rastafarian wannabe whose pal decides to set him up with an embalmer's assistant. According to *New York Times* critic Ben Brantley, Glaudini's characters exhibit "quirks and kinks that are a crucial hair's breadth short of preciousness or cartoonishness." *8 p.m., Blackbird Theatre, 1600 Pauline. Tickets $20 (seniors age 60 & over, $15; students, $10) in advance and at the door. Oct. 31 & Nov. 1 preview tickets $15 (students, $10). 332–3848.*

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre Company. *Every Wed.–Sun. (except Nov. 27) through Dec. 20, and Nov. 25 & Dec. 16.* Guy Sanville directs Purple Rose founder Jeff Daniels's poignant, densely layered 1996 comedy. A public TV fund-raiser starts a new life in a new apartment after being dumped by her boyfriend. While she tries to sort out her feelings, she is preoccupied by the attentions of two very different men, the budget woes of public broadcasting, and the problem of evil in general. Cast: Matthew David, Michael Brian Ogden, Rhiannon Ragland, and Will David Young. *3 & 8 p.m., Purple Rose, 137 Park St., Chelsea. Tickets $25 (Sun. eves., Wed., & Thurs.), $33 (Sat. & Sun. matinees), & $38 (Fri. & Sat. eves.) in advance and at the door. 433–7673.*

Spike Tobin: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Oct. 30 & 31 and Nov. 1.* An irreverent, nervously energetic jokester from Boston with a raspy voice, Tobin likes to talk about religion, gun control, and other touchy subjects. Preceded by 2 opening acts. All Friday & Saturday early shows are nonsmoking shows. *8 & 10:30 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. $7 (Thurs.) & $10 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $9 (Thurs.) & $12 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

★"Milonga Picante": Michigan Argentine Tango Club. *Nov. 1 & 15.* Tango dancing to recorded music. *Note:* People not affiliated with the U-M must arrive before 9 p.m. *9 p.m.–1:30 a.m., Michigan League Vandenberg Room (Nov. 1) & Ballroom (Nov. 15). Free. 973–2338.*

Monkey Rampant Sketch Comedy: Dreamland Theater. This local sketch comedy troupe presents a fast-paced show of surrealistic parodies of various aspects of popular culture. Age 18 & older admitted. *9 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 26 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. $6. 657–2337.*

2 SUNDAY

★"A2Sunday Runners": Two Dogs Running. *Every Sun.* All invited to join informal runs of 5–7 miles along various scenic routes. *8:30 a.m., meet at Sweetwaters Coffee & Tea, Kerrytown. Free. 657–0214.*

★Falun Gong. *Every Sun.* Local practitioners introduce this Chinese discipline, which consists of 5 exercises and meditation. *8:30–10:30 a.m., location TBA. Free. 834–4978.*

★"T'ai Chi Ch'uan at the Cube." *Every Sun.* Local t'ai chi instructor Chad Eisner leads a session of these slow meditative movements for beginning and advanced practitioners. *9 a.m., U-M Cube, between the Union and the SAB. Free. 761–5204.*

★Silent Vipassana Meditation: Deep Spring Center for Meditation and Spiritual Inquiry. *Every Sun.* Meditators of all levels invited for an hour of silent meditation focusing on the breath. While the practice stems from the earliest and purest Buddhist teachings, this form of meditation requires no religious beliefs. Followed by a 30-minute dharma discussion. *10–11:30 a.m., Deep Spring Center, 3003 Washtenaw, suite 2 (entrance on Glenwood, next to Arby's). Free, but donations accepted. 477–5848.*

★Introductory Dharma Talk: Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. *Every Sun.* Talks by **Gehlek Rimpoche,** an incarnate lama from Tibet who lives in Ann Arbor, or one of Gehlek's senior students. *10–11 a.m., Jewel Heart Buddhist Center, 1129 Oak Valley Dr. (just south of Ann Arbor–Saline Rd.). Free, but donations accepted. 994–3387.*

★"Lower Huron Metro Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Fast/moderate-paced 65-mile ride to Lower Huron Metropark, with a stop in Belleville for lunch on the way back. *10 a.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 434–3097.*

★"Perspectives on This Election": Ann Arbor Unitarian Fellowship. Talk by local attorney and longtime Democratic activist Thomas Wieder. *10 a.m., Burns Park Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 994–4473.*

★Ultimate Frisbee: H.A.C. Ultimate. *Every Sun.* All invited to a very relaxed pickup game of this spirited team sport played with a flying disc. *Note:* Overly competitive players are politely asked to leave. *10:15 a.m., Mitchell Field. Free. 846–9418.*

★Meditation: Karma Thegsum Choling. *Every Sun.* All invited to join a chanting meditation. *11 a.m.–noon (Nov. 2, 9, 23, & 30) & 10–11:30 a.m. (Nov. 16), KTC, 614 Miner (off Miller). Free. 761–7495, 678–7549.*

★First Singles: First Presbyterian Church. *Every Sun.* A weekly program open to all single adults interested in contemporary Christian topics, new ideas, personal growth, and social and physical activities. Today: First Singles member Cereita Little discusses **"The Coming Election."** Also this month: First Presbyterian member Richard Ankli discusses John Grisham's ***An Innocent Man*** (Nov. 9), First Singles member Dee Valvanis discusses **"Giving Up the Car Keys"** (Nov. 16), a **planning meeting and potluck** (Nov. 23), and a program TBA (Nov. 30). *11 a.m., First Presbyterian Church Curtis Room, 1432 Washtenaw. Free. 662–4466, ext. 43.*

★First Presbyterian Church Adult Education. *Every Sun.* Today: U-M law professor Douglas Laycock discusses **"The Establishment of Religion (with Notes on Politics)."** Also this month: U-M English grad student Olivia Bustion discusses **"The Christian Poetry of W. H. Auden"** (Nov. 9 & 16), U-M English professor John Whittier-Ferguson discusses **"Spirit and Body: Poetry about the Incarnation"** (Nov. 23), and Ann Arbor Guild of Organists member (and U-M math professor) Daniel Forger presents a lecture-demo on **"Bach's Musical Paintings"** (Nov. 30). All invited. *11 a.m., First Presbyterian Church Lewis Room, 1432 Washtenaw. Free. 662–4466.*

Sunday Artisan Market. *Every Sun.* Show and sale of fine crafts, jewelry, soaps, furniture, fiber arts, and gift items. Also, live music TBA. *11 a.m.–4 p.m., Farmers' Market. Free admission. 913–9622.*

"O-Meet": Southern Michigan Orienteering Club. All invited to try this at-your-own-pace sport of reading maps and compasses to follow an outdoor course. Maps, some compasses available. No experience necessary. *Noon–2 p.m., Crooked Lake picnic area, Waterloo Recreation Area (follow Orienteering signs on Green Rd., 2 miles north off Clear Lake Rd. from I-94 exit 153). $10 (members, $5) plus vehicle entry fee. 975–1114.*

★"Understanding Quakerism": Ann Arbor Friends Meetinghouse. *Oct. 19 & 26 and Nov. 2.* All invited to join discussions about Quaker history, beliefs, and practices. Preceded by a light lunch. Today's topic: **FAQs and Quakers Today.** *12:30–2:30 p.m., 1416 Hill. Free. 475–0942.*

"Family Field Day": Ann Arbor Active Against ALS Fund-Raiser. Relay races, a scavenger hunt, kickball, sports clinics, information booths, a bake sale, Pilates and BollyFit (Indian-influenced dance aerobics) demos, and more. *1–4 p.m., Burns Park, Wells & Baldwin. $15 (families, $20) by Oct. 27, $20 (families, $25) after Oct. 27. 657–6680.*

Contact Improv. *Every Sun. except Nov. 30.* All invited to try this interactive, freeform dance style that involves contact with one or more partners. It can involve improvisational lifts and other experimentations with gravity. You might find yourself upside down, so dress appropriately for easy movement. No partner required; beginners welcome. (The 1st Sunday of each month begins with an hour of formal instruction.) Followed by discussion and socializing. *1–3 p.m., The Mind Body Spirit Academe, 1785 W. Stadium. $5–$10 sliding scale based on ability to pay. 604–4416.*

Tour: Kempf House Museum. *Every Sun. except Nov. 30.* Guided tours of this restored 19th-century Greek Revival home, named for the family of German American musicians who occupied it at the end of the 19th century. *1–4 p.m., Kempf House, 312 S. Division. Admission $1 (children under age 12, free). 994–4898.*

Tour: U-M Detroit Observatory. *Nov. 2 & 14.* Docent-guided tours, about 30 minutes long, of the photographs and artifacts in this restored 19th-century observatory museum. Also, a chance to pull the rope and rotate the telescope dome. *1–4 p.m. (Nov. 2) and 9 a.m.–noon & 4–7 p.m. (Nov. 14), U-M Detroit Observatory, 1398 E. Ann at Observatory. $5 suggested donation (U-M students, free). 763–2230.*

★Ann Arbor Go Club. *Every Sun. & Thurs. except Nov. 27.* Players of all skill levels invited to play what's regarded as the world's most difficult board game. No partner necessary. Boards and stones provided. *1–6 p.m. (Sun.) & 7 p.m.–midnight (Thurs.), Espresso Royale, 322 S. State. Free. 417–5547.*

Cooking Sessions: Kitchen Port. *Nov. 2, 5, 7, 12, & 19.* Cooking demos and talks. Today: Roos Roast owner John Roos discusses **"Espresso 101."** Also this month: Ovations Catering chef Pat Wright discusses **"Ideas for Your Holiday Menu"** (Nov. 5, noon–1 p.m.), House on the Hill owner Connie Messinger makes **"Cookies Too Pretty to Eat"** (Nov. 7, 7–9 p.m.), *Ann Arbor News* food writer Marge Biancke on **"Thanksgiving Side Dishes"** (Nov. 12, noon–1 p.m.), and Dahlia's Custom Cakes owner Dahlia Weinman gives a **marzipan modeling**

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Photograph by Ryan Spencer Reed

Peter Ho Davies,
Author of "The Welsh Girl"

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY
Ann Arbor

4090 Geddes Road • Ann Arbor, MI
Concordia University is located just
west of US-23 at Exit 39

November 2008 Events

✦ *Denotes events that are free*

Gallery

The Sudan Project: Photographs by Ryan Spencer Reed ✦
October 28 – December 7 • Kreft Gallery
Opening Reception, Friday, November 7
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Over the last several years, documentary photographer, Ryan Spencer Reed, has recorded the displacement of the people of Darfur, Sudan. His photographic images are powerful witnesses to the experiences of those who were and are caught up in these events and serves as an appeal for peace, which advocates for the people affected by the violence in Sudan.
sudanproject.ryanspencerreed.com

Music

Benjamin Britten's, *St. Nicholas*
The Concordia University Choir and The Boy Choir of Ann Arbor
Sunday, November 2 • 4:00 p.m.
Chapel of the Holy Trinity
Tickets: $10, $7 for seniors, $5 for children and students
Concordia music professor Brian Altevogt directs the combined forces of the Concordia University Choir, the Boy Choir of Ann Arbor, orchestra, and soloists in a performance of Benjamin Britten's sacred cantata *Saint Nicholas*. Karl Schmidt joins the performance as a tenor.

Concordia Wind Ensemble ✦
Friday, November 14 • 8:00 p.m.
Chapel of the Holy Trinity
Concordia University Wind Ensemble, under the direction of Matthew Wolf, will present its Fall Concert, highlighted by the world premiere of a sacred band work by Chicago-based composer Jacob Bancks, commissioned by the Concordia University Wind Ensemble. Other music performed will include the music of Percy Grainger, Frank Ticheli and George Gershwin.

Lecture

Peter Ho Davies ✦
Monday, November 10 • 7:30 p.m.
Riverside Room
Award-winning novelist and short story writer, Peter Ho Davies reads from his recent novel, "The Welsh Girl," and talks about his work. Set in Wales during the last days of WWII, the novel relates the story of a young Welsh girl, betrayed by an English soldier stationed near her rural village, and the German prisoner-of-war with whom she builds a brief but profound relationship.

Books & Coffee

Reconciliation: Dickens' "Great Expectations"... and Ours ✦
Tuesday, November 18 • 4:00 p.m.
Earhart Manor Living Room
Discussion led by Mark Looker, Concordia Professor of English
Is Dickens' famous novel just a tome with which to plague generations of high schoolers, or does it speak to our own "great expectations?" Does it portray delusion finally understood and overcome, or does it rather, under the guise of honest self-appraisal, actually encourage the kind of fantasy life that on the surface it condemns? Part fairy tale, part love letter, part confession, "Great Expectations" haunts the imagination by trying to exorcise ghosts that we may wish would stick around.

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Registration deadline: Monday, November 3, 2008

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Family Concert

The Orchestra Is Here to Play

Nov 9
Michigan Theater
Sunday at 4 pm

Join the A²SO and everyone's favorite twins—Gemini—as they share their warmth, humor and fun. Gemini will premiere a new work, called "Perfect Pitch." Plus, our Ann Arbor connections continue with a performance by the Ann Arbor Youth Chorale, singing along with Gemini and the A²SO. Ariel & Zoey are another much younger set of local musical twins who have amazed audiences across the nation. They will sing in this concert too!

FEATURED ARTISTS:

Gemini is San & Laz Slomovits

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Pablo Picasso, "Danseuse" (detail) 1954
Color lithograph
University of Michigan Museum of Art, Gift of the Marvin Felheim Collection, 1983/1.277

ANN ARBOR SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
A²SO
MUSIC IN THE KEY OF A²

MAGIC OF THE HARP

Nov 15
Michigan Theater
Saturday at 8 pm

Dances Sacred & Profane

ARIE LIPSKY CONDUCTOR
PRIMOR SLUCHIN HARP

PROGRAM:

HANDEL *Harp Concerto*
DEBUSSY *Dances Sacre et Profane*
TCHAIKOVSKY *Suite No. 3*
SCHUBERT *The Magic Harp*

FEATURED ARTIST:

Primor Sluchin

Tickets | $10-$47
College Students | $15
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Note: Educational documentaries are listed with the daily Events.

Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. *Nov. 21:* Feature film TBA, followed by discussion. FREE. 994–3387. Jewel Heart (1129 Oak Valley Dr. just south of Ann Arbor–Saline Rd.), 7 p.m.

Melange Subterranean Bistro. **"Sunday Night Movie & Dinner"** with dinner (salad, entree, & dessert) followed by screening of a classic or contemporary movie. Menu items range from $5 to $30. Space limited; reservations recommended. 222–0202. Melange (314 S. Main), 6:30 p.m. *Nov. 2:* **"Forgetting Sarah Marshall"** (Nicholas Stoller, 2008). Romantic comedy about a man who discovers that the ex-girlfriend who recently dumped him is vacationing with her new boyfriend at the same Hawaiian hotel where he has come to get over her. Jason Segel, Kristin Bell. *Nov. 9:* **"Animal House"** (John Landis, 1978). Classic slapstick comedy about a delinquent frat house. John Belushi, Tom Hulce, Peter Riegert. *Nov. 16:* **"You Don't Mess with the Zohan"** (Dennis Dugan, 2008). An Israeli commando hero fakes his own death in order to pursue his dream to become a New York hairstylist. Adam Sandler. *Nov. 23:* **"What Happens in Vegas"** (Tom Vaughan, 2008). Romantic comedy about a man and a woman both down on their luck who meet in Vegas, precipitously marry, hit a $3 million jackpot, and are forced to try to make a go of it when a judge refuses to grant them a quickie divorce. Cameron Diaz, Ashton Kutcher. *Nov. 30:* **"E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial"** (Steven Spielberg, 1982). Sci-fi classic about a young boy who befriends a creature from outer space.

M-Flicks. FREE. 763–1107. U-M Natural Science Auditorium, 8 p.m. *Nov. 7:* **"Interview with the Vampire"** (Neil Jordan, 1994). Drama based on the novel by Anne Rice about 2 vampires and their difficulties with immortality and loneliness. Tom Cruise, Brad Pitt. *Nov. 14:* **"Tropic Thunder"** (Ben Stiller, 2008). Spoof about actors shooting a war movie who must become the soldiers they're portraying. Robert Downey Jr., Jack Black, Ben Stiller. *Nov. 21:* Double feature. **"Lock, Stock, and Two Smoking Barrels"** (Guy Ritchie, 1998). Crime comedy about 4 working-class Londoners who pool their money in a card game but end up owing a million pounds and having only a week to come up with the cash. Jason Statham. **"Snatch"** (Guy Ritchie, 2000). Raucous action-comedy about a stolen diamond's journey among small-time crooks and various shady characters.

Michigan Theater Foundation. Unless there is a live show in the main theater, 2 or 3 different films are shown, usually more than once each, almost every night. For complete, updated schedules, see michtheater.org or call 668–TIME. Tickets (unless otherwise noted): $9 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, $7; MTF members, $6.50). Michigan Theater, times TBA unless otherwise noted. *Oct. 31–Nov. 6:* **"Happy-Go-Lucky"** (Mike Leigh, 2008). Drama about an optimistic North London schoolteacher whose circumstances challenge her sunny disposition. *Nov. 1:* Double feature. **"True Stories"** (David Byrne, 1986). Rock comedy starring Talking Heads frontman David Byrne who visits a fictional Texas town and gets to know some colorful locals. **"Stop Making Sense"** (Jonathan Demme, 1984). Exuberant Talking Heads concert film regarded by many as the best concert film of all time. 7 p.m. *Nov. 2:* **"The Man Who Laughs"** (Paul Leni, 1928). Silent horror film based on Victor Hugo's novel about a man with a permanent grin carved in his face. *Nov. 3:* **"Blazing Saddles"** (Mel Brooks, 1974). Riotous send-up of western movies, set in a small 1870s town, that pokes fun at a wide array of politically incorrect stereotypes. Cleavon Little, Gene Wilder, Harvey Korman, Madeline Kahn, Slim Pickens. 7 p.m. **"House of Wax"** (Andre de Toth, 1953). A vengeful evil sculptor builds his museum using human victims as figurines. Vincent Price. In 3-D. 7 p.m. *Nov. 4–7:* **"The Sundance Institute Art House Project"** (various directors). Short films from the Sundance Film Festival. *Nov. 8:* **"Children of Winter"** (Warren Miller, 2008). The latest family-oriented ski adventure film produced by Warren Miller. Recognized as the world's premier ski filmmaker, Miller has been making ski adventure films for 59 years. He's a major star on the West Coast, where his films draw packed houses for weeklong runs, and the annual Michigan Theater showing usually draws 800 to 1,000 viewers. All attendees receive coupons for deals on lift tickets at many area ski resorts. Tickets $15 & $20 (kids age 12 & under, $12) in advance at Sun & Snow (2471 W. Stadium), the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645–6666. 8 p.m. *Nov. 8:* **15th Annual Polish Film Festival.** First of 2 days of Polish shorts and feature films shown in Polish, with subtitles. $10 (students & seniors, $6) per day. 913–1013. ***Twists of Fate*** (Jerzy Stuhr, 2007). Drama about the intertwining fates of a former secret police collaborator and a corrupt college student. 3 p.m. ***Stone Silence*** (Krzysztof Kopczynski, 2007). Documentary about the killing of an Afghan woman accused of adultery. The 6 p.m. show begins with 2 documentary shorts: ***A Woman and Circles*** (Bruce Checefsky, 2004) is based on an unproduced 1930 script by Polish poet Jan Brzekowski, and ***The First Day*** (Marcin Sauter, 2007) tells the story of 60 1st-graders who spend a year in the harsh climate of Aksarka, Russia. 6 p.m. ***Fur*** (Tomasz Drozdowicz, 2007). Comedy about an upper middle class family catastrophe. 9 p.m. *Nov. 9:* **15th Annual Polish Film Festival.** Second of 2 days of Polish shorts and feature films shown in Polish, with subtitles. $10 (students & seniors, $6) per day. 913–1013. ***Lejdis*** (Tomasz Konecki, 2008). Comedy about the wild experiences of 4 women in their 30s. 1 p.m. ***Tricks*** (Andrzej Jakimowski, 2007). Award-winning drama about a young boy's attempt to influence the adult world he barely understands. 4 p.m. ***Three Buddies*** (Ewa Stankiewicz and Anna Ferens, 2008). Documentary about 3 friends' experiences of communist Poland. Followed by a discussion with the directors. 6 p.m. *Nov. 10:* **"Young Frankenstein"** (Mel Brooks, 1974). Hilarious burlesque of old Frankenstein movies. Gene Wilder, Peter Boyle, Marty Feldman, Teri Garr, Cloris Leachman. 7 p.m. *Nov. 17:* **"A Shot in the Dark"** (Blake Edwards, 1964). Inspector Clouseau hilariously bumbles his way through a murder investigation. Peter Sellers, Elke Sommer. 7 p.m. *Nov. 11:* **"A Few Good Men"** (Rob Reiner, 1992). Drama about a military lawyer who defends marines accused of murder. Tom Cruise, Jack Nicholson, Demi Moore. *Nov. 11–13:* **"Trouble the Water"** (Carl Deal and Tia Lessin, 2008). Documentary about a rapper and her husband who stay in New Orleans after Katrina. *Nov. 16:* **"Flow: For Love of Water"** (Irena Salina, 2008). Documentary about a dwindling natural resource. **"The Pool"** (Chris Smith, 2007). Drama about a poor Indian boy who becomes obsessed with a swimming pool in an opulent neighborhood. Hindi, subtitles. *Nov. 18:* **"Jarhead"** (Sam Mendes, 2005). Drama based on Anthony Swofford's 2003 memoir about his experiences as a marine in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. Jake Gyllenhaal. *Nov. 19:* **"Pond Hockey"** (Tommy Haines, 2008). Award-winning documentary about the changing culture of outdoor ice hockey that interweaves the story of the debut U.S. Pond Hockey Championships with interviews of everyone from former stars like Wayne Gretzky to local rink rats. $10 in advance at 834–0084 and at the door. 7 p.m. **"The Singing Revolution"** (James Tusty and Maureen Tusty, 2006). Documentary about the importance of patriotic songs in the Estonian revolution. *Nov. 21–27:* **"The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas"** (Mark Herman, 2008). Drama set during WW II about a concentration camp officer's 8-year-old son and the startling consequences of his friendship with a Jewish boy. *Nov. 22:* **"The Wizard of Oz"** (Victor Fleming, 1939). Newly restored print of this classic film musical based on L. Frank Baum's beloved children's fantasy. 1:30 p.m. *Nov. 24:* **"Victor/Victoria"** (Blake Edwards, 1982). A down-and-out singer disguises herself as a man and becomes the toast of the Parisian cabaret scene. Julie Andrews, James Garner, Robert Preston. 7 p.m. *Nov. 25:* **"Full Metal Jacket"** (Stanley Kubrick, 1987). Marines survive basic training and head for a harrowing stint in Vietnam. *Nov. 28:* Toyota Family-Friendly Film Series. **"Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory"** (Mel Stuart, 1971). Delightfully unsettling musical fantasy based on the Roald Dahl book about a boy who visits a candy factory. Gene Wilder. Kids 12 & under, free. *Nov. 30:* **"The Bishop's Wife"** (Henry Koster, 1947). Classic romantic comedy about a bishop who prays for guidance and gets it in the form of a meddling angel who teaches him to pay attention to the most important things in life. Cary Grant, David Niven, Loretta Young. 4 p.m. *Nov. dates TBA:* **"I Served the King of England"** (Jiri Menzel, 2006). Visually sensuous drama set in Prague about the life of a released prisoner as he remembers it in flashbacks. Czech, German; subtitles. **"Rachel Getting Married"** (Jonathan Demme, 2008). Darkly comic drama about a family preparing for one daughter's wedding when another daughter returns from rehab and upsets the dynamic. **"Filth and Wisdom"** (Madonna, 2008). Comedy about 3 London flatmates and their desperate lives. **"What Just Happened?"** (Barry Levinson, 2008). Comic drama about a Hollywood producer having a rough time trying to get a new film made. Robert De Niro, Bruce Willis, Stanley Tucci, John Turturro. **"Ashes of Time Redux"** (Kar Wai Wong, 2008). Action film about a brokenhearted hit man who moves to the desert and finds skilled swordsmen to carry out his contracts. Mandarin, Cantonese; subtitles. **"The Exiles"** (Kent MacKenzie, 1961). Documentary about displaced young Native Americans living in L.A.

St. Thomas Lutheran Church. **"Big Screen Film."** FREE. 663–7511. St. Thomas, 10001 Ellsworth (west of Parker). 7 p.m. *Nov. 21:* **"The Hiding Place"** (James Collier, 1975). Drama based on Corrie ten Boom's account of her experience in a concentration camp during WW II.

U-M Campus Chapel. FREE. 668–7421. Campus Chapel Center for Faith and Scholarship (1236 Washtenaw Ct.), 8 p.m. *Nov. 15:* **"Who Killed the Electric Car?"** (Chris Paine, 2006). Documentary about the birth and death of the electric car and the role of renewable energy and sustainable living in the future.

U-M Center for Chinese Studies. **Chinese Documentary Film Series.** FREE. 764–6308. Angell Hall Auditorium A (entrance at the Fishbowl on the east side of the bldg.). 7 p.m. *Nov. 1:* **"No Sex, No Violence, No News: The Battle to Control China's Airwaves"** (Sharon Connolly, Susan Lambert, & Stefan Moore, 2002). Australian documentary about Chinese TV programming. English & Chinese, subtitles. *Nov. 8:* **"Last House Standing"** (Chao Gan & Zi Liang, 2005). Documentary about the convulsive effects of China's economic growth seen from the point of view of the last remaining resident of a Shanghai district slated for redevelopment. English & Chinese, subtitles. *Nov. 15:* **"Shanghai Bride"** (Melanie Ansley & Sam Voutas, 2006). Documentary about the difficulties of working-class men in finding wives in Shanghai, where there are 2 single males for every single female, and the women are increasingly picky and middle-class. Mandarin & Shanghainese, subtitles. *Nov. 22:* **"Dance with Farm Workers"** (Wu Wenguang & Su Ming, 2001). Documentary about a dance theater troupe that undertakes a project with 30 farm workers who've come to Beijing to work on construction sites.

U-M Center for Japanese Studies. FREE. 763–4301. Lorch Hall Askwith Auditorium (611 Tappan), 7 p.m. *Nov. 7:* **"Porco Rosso"** (Hayao Miyazaki, 1992). Anime adventure set in 1930s Italy about a daredevil pilot cursed with a pig's head. Dubbed in English. *Nov. 14:* **"Summer Days with Coo"** (Keiichi Hara, 2007). Anime fantasy about a boy who takes in a river spirit. His family can't keep the spirit, but scoop-hungry reporters get in the way of finding it a better home. Dubbed in English. *Nov. 21:* **"The Amazing Lives of the Fast Food Grifters"** (Mamoru Oshii, 2006). Dark comedy about savvy consumers trying to steal fast food in a reimagined post–WW II Japan. The cinematography combines stop-motion animation with live actors. Japanese, subtitles.

U-M Japanese Animation Film Society. *Nov. 8:* **Con Ja Nai (Not a Convention).** Yearly anime-a-thon, with Japanese animation old and new on 4 screens. Visitors can attend any film for any length of time. Films TBA. U-M campus admission policy: No one under 18 admitted without an adult. FREE. umich.edu/~animania. MLB, 812 E. Washington at Thayer, 10 a.m.–midnight.

U-M Max Kade House. FREE. 764–5018. Max Kade house (Baits II, 1440 Hubbard, North Campus), 7–10 p.m. *Nov. 5:* **"Maybe . . . Maybe Not"** (Soenke Wortmann, 1996). Comedy about a young man who moves in with a gay man after his girlfriend throws him out. *Nov. 19:* **"The Downfall"** (Oliver Hirschbiegel, 2004). Drama about Hitler's final days. German, subtitles.

WCBN-FM. 763–3500. *Nov. 11:* **"Soul to Soul"** (Denis Sanders, 1971). Documentary about a 1971 music festival in Ghana featuring performances by an all-star roster of African American musicians, including Wilson Pickett, Ike and Tina Turner, Santana, Roberta Flack, the Staple Singers, and more. FREE admission. 763–3500. Live at PJ's (102 S. First), 9 p.m.

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November 14: Kevin O'Connor, Founder of O'Connor Ventures with "Creating Something From Nothing"

November 21: Gauri Nanda, Founder of Nanda Home, Inc. with "Bringing Smart Products to Market"

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2 SUNDAY *continued*

demonstration (Nov. 19, noon–1 p.m.). *1–2 p.m., Kitchen Port, 283 Zeeb Rd. $10. Preregistration recommended. 665–9188.*

★**"Veggie Alternatives for the Holidays": Ann Arbor District Library.** Seva vegetarian restaurant staff show 6th-graders through adults how to make tasty dishes for Thanksgiving. *1–3 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–4200.*

★**"Freshman in the Kitchen: From Clueless Cook to Creative Chef": Cranbrook Whole Foods Market.** Michigan chefs and brothers **Max and Eli Sussman** (see 13 Thursday Jewish Book Festival listing) prepare recipes from their new cookbook. Signing. *1–3 p.m., Whole Foods Lifestyle Center, Cranbrook Village shopping center, 990 W. Eisenhower Pkwy. Free. 997–7507.*

★**"Election Connection": Ann Arbor District Library.** All kids in grade K–3 invited to make a "celebrate freedom hat" and a colorful link for a voting chain to elect their favorite jungle animal. Materials provided. *1–2 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–4200.*

★**Children's Storytime: Liberty Borders.** *Every Sun.* Borders staff reads stories for kids. *1 p.m., Borders, 612 E. Liberty. Free. 668–7652.*

★**Mary Jane Maffini: Aunt Agatha's.** This Toronto mystery writer offers tips to writers on how to kickstart their characters and discusses her new book ***The Cluttered Corpse,*** a mystery about a professional organizer who, while helping a friend organize her stuffed animal collection, fends off pranksters whose shenanigans lead to murder. *1:30 p.m., Aunt Agatha's, 213 S. Fourth Ave. Free. 769–1114.*

★**"From Floodplain to Prairie": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission.** WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner leads a hike through the preserve. Preceded at noon by a **"Whacking Woodies"** workday to remove invasive shrubs and help restore prairie diversity. *2–4 p.m., Burns-Stokes Preserve, Zeeb Rd. at the Huron River (just south of Huron River Dr.), Scio Twp. Free. 971–6337.*

Forest Hill Cemetery Tour. *Every Sun. through Nov. 9.* Ann Arbor's unofficial city historian, **Wystan Stevens,** has been leading his popular interpretive tour of Ann Arbor's oldest cemetery for almost 30 years. Stevens is an enchanting, wryly humorous raconteur, and he says that "the fall is the prettiest time of year for the graveyard." If you haven't been led around Forest Hill by Wystan, you don't really know Ann Arbor! Canceled in case of heavy rain. *2–5 p.m., meet inside the gate on Observatory, just north of Geddes. $10 (children with adult, free) by advance reservation and at the gate. 662–5438.*

★**"How 3 Close-Knit Neighborhoods Worked to Be Sustainable": Sunward Cohousing.** Talk by Sunward Cohousing founder Nick Meima. Meima also gives a talk at 2 p.m. on Nov. 9 on **"How Can We Have Neighborhoods If We Don't Know Our Neighbors?"** *2 p.m., Sunward Cohousing, 424 Little Lake Dr. Free. Preregistration required. 763–2177.*

★**"Pride and Prejudice": Ann Arbor District Library.** Veteran freelance director Timothy Douglas discusses the U-M theater department production he is directing in early December of James Maxwell's adaptation of the classic Austen novel. *2–3:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★**"Kerry Tales: Duck, Duck, Goose with Mother Goose": Kerrytown Shops.** 30-minute family-oriented program of rhymes, riddles, and stories with local storyteller Trudy Bulkley as "Mother Goose." *2 p.m., Hollander's, 407 N. Fifth Ave. (Kerrytown). Free. 769–3115.*

★**Kids Open Stage: Oz's Music Environment.** Kids of all ages and all musical abilities are invited to play, sing, or just observe. *2–3 p.m., Oz's, 1922 Packard. Free; donations welcome. 662–8283.*

"Festivals and Celebrations": Ann Arbor Concert Band. James Nissen conducts this local volunteer ensemble in a program highlighted by his own fanfare commemorating the band's 30th anniversary. Also, Fillmore's "The President's March," Shostakovich's *Festive Overture,* Arutunian's Trumpet Concerto, John Williams's "Summon the Heroes," Glazounov's "Autumn," John Zdechlik's "Shaker Dance," and Tchaikovsky's Symphony no. 4. *2 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $10 (students & seniors, $5; kids age 12 & under, free) in advance and at the door. 434–7876.*

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 2 p.m.

★**"Cool Cuisine: Taking the Bite Out of Global Warming": Barnes & Noble.** San Francisco-based chef **Laura Stec** reads from her new ecofriendly cookbook. *3 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

Alan Jabbour & Ken Perlman: Pittsfield Union Grange. Folk music by the duo of well-known Washington, D.C., fiddler Jabbour and Indiana clawhammer-style banjo virtuoso Perlman. *3 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). $10 (members, $9). 662–8936.*

★**"Tote Your Vote": Ann Arbor District Library.** All kids in grades 4 & 5 invited to decorate a tote to celebrate the right to vote. Participants also make an apple crisp. Material provided. *4–5 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"Northern Waters": Vocal Arts Ensemble.** Benjamin Cohen leads this 24-member local vocal ensemble in a program of songs by Baltic and North Sea composers, including Nielsen, Sandstrom, Grieg, Sibelius, and others. *4 p.m., St. James Episcopal Church, 3279 Broad St., Dexter. Free. 665–7823.*

"Saint Nicholas": Concordia University. Brian Altevogt directs the **Concordia University Choir** and the **Boychoir of Ann Arbor** in Britten's cantata about the legendary saint and some of his most extraordinary miracles, including speaking at birth, calming a violent storm, and bringing 3 pickled boys back to life. *4 p.m., Concordia University Chapel of the Holy Trinity, 4090 Geddes at Earhart. $10 (seniors, $7; students & kids, $5). 995–4612.*

★**"Solemn Evensong for All Souls": St. Andrew's Episcopal Church.** Deborah Friauff directs the church's adult choir in a program that features the Offertory from Spanish Renaissance composer Tomas Luis de Victoria's Requiem and English Renaissance composer Thomas Morley's Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis. *4 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Free. 663–0518.*

"Gran Celebracion de Dia de Muertos": Alebrije Productions. See 1 Saturday. 6:30–9:30 p.m.

"A Circle of Drums": Drumwomyn. *Every Sun.* All women invited to gather for a drumming session. Bring your own drum. *7–8:30 p.m., WRAP Resource Center, 325 Braun Ct. $10. 913–9670.*

★**Muse Ensemble: EMU Music Department.** This area ensemble performs works by Dvorak, Dohnanyi, and others. Members are Detroit violinist Kyoko Kashiwagi, EMU viola professor Eva Stern, U-M cello professor Katri Ervamaa, and Detroit Chamber Winds and Strings pianist Angelina Pashmakova. *7:30 p.m., EMU Alexander Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

U-M Ballroom Dancers. *Nov. 2, 9, & 30.* Ballroom dancing to recorded music, including fox-trots, waltzes, cha-chas, rumbas, tangos, swing, and more. No partner necessary. Preceded at 7 p.m. by beginning lessons and practice. *8–10 p.m., Michigan Union Ballroom (Nov. 2), Michigan League Ballroom (Nov. 9), & Michigan Union Pendleton Room (Nov. 30). $3. 763–6984.*

Ravish Momin's Trio Tarana: Canterbury House. Indian- and East-Asian-influenced jazz by this Brooklyn, New York, ensemble led by Indian percussionist Momin. "Creating compelling, panglobal jazz that blends Indian, Japanese, Afghani, and Indonesian rhythms in surprising and exciting ways, this is dazzling and dynamic music from a boundary shattering trio," says a *Time Out London* reviewer. The trio includes violinist Sam Bardfeld and oud player Brandon Terzic. *8 p.m., Canterbury House, 721 E. Huron. $10 (students & seniors, $5). 764–3162.*

★**"Side Man": U-M Basement Arts.** See 1 Saturday. Time TBA.

3 MONDAY

★**"Back Roads Ramble": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Mon.* Slow-paced ride, 12–35 miles, along dirt and gravel roads to Independence Lake and other low-traffic destinations. *9 a.m., meet at 960 Forest Rd. (off Country Club Dr.), Barton Hills. Free. 761–2885, 663–5060.*

★**Monday Club: Ann Arbor Salvation Army.** *Nov. 3 & 10.* Drop-in social group for seniors age 55 & older. Every meeting includes a speaker, word game, craft, or activity. Also, **Bible study** and **chair exercises.** Coffee, tea, juice, and doughnuts served. Followed by lunch ($1) and socializing. *10 a.m.–noon, Salvation Army, 100 Arbana. Free. 668–8353.*

★**Weekly Rehearsal: Women's Chamber Chorus.** *Every Mon.* All invited to join this independent 30-member local women's chorus to sing everything from Bach and Hungarian folk songs to madrigals and pop tunes. David Perample directs. *10–11:30 a.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh at Davis. Free to visitors ($100 per semester membership dues for those who join). 213–3770, 769–0784.*

★**"Playgroups for Babies": Ann Arbor District Library.** *Every Mon.* Playgroup for kids up to 24 months, accompanied by an adult. No older siblings. *Note:* Playgroups are also offered at the Malletts Creek (Tues., 10–11 a.m., & Thurs. except Nov. 27, 6:30–7:30 p.m.), Pittsfield (Tues., 6:30–7:30 p.m.), and Traverwood (Fri., 10:30–11:30 a.m.) branches.

Too Much Time: Photographs by Jane Atwood

Framed by voyeurism

Pieces of women peek out from behind shadows, prison bars, and maximum-security doors in the current collection of Jane Atwood's photographs at the Slusser Gallery. Taken throughout the 1990s in prisons from Arizona to the former Soviet Union, Atwood's black-and-white photos chronicle myriad struggles for incarcerated women. At times, Atwood has an advocate's eye: an image shows a husband bent over his wife's corpse (the description says she died because she wasn't allowed to have an inhaler in her cell). But at other times, the shocking access she has to personal moments colludes with the privacy-stripping dehumanization of prisons. The photo of a woman receiving a gynecological exam—required after a conjugal visit, according to the description—disturbs me most because it doesn't look clinical. The prisoner wears oversize wool socks, a big winter sweater, and a matter-of-fact expression. She's calm, as if no one is watching her. The image is almost (I shudder at the thought) intimate.

Atwood continually capitalizes on the similarity of *inmate* and *intimate*. In a shot of a "prison sauna for inmates," several naked women stand around basins washing themselves. One looks down at her body, smiling slightly, drenching herself with a bucket of water. She looks like a Greek goddess, I think, as I admire the way the water cascades from her breasts like a fountain. Only a small industrial light in the far back corner of the frame reminds me this is prison.

Occasionally, Atwood's descriptions stand in direct contrast to the photograph she's taken. One violent image depicts officers holding down a naked woman. Two male guards stand in the foreground—one is just a shadowy profile looming over the frame. Only the woman's breasts are in focus. Her face is obscured, but a nipple appears in stark relief against the white arm another officer is holding down. The description reads, "Corrections officers strip a newly arrested woman who tried to commit suicide by swallowing her own clothes. Male corrections officers were called only when women guards proved incapable of handling the situation." The description suggests that the image can't stand alone—that even Atwood is troubled by its violence.

I long for deeper descriptions of other provocative images. "Newly booked woman in a holding cell" hardly explains a photograph of a naked woman sprawled, belly down, on the floor. She has something stuffed in her mouth. Is she the woman who swallowed clothes? A dark stain on the floor—blood? vomit? peeling paint?—is a queasy reminder that something is missing from this picture. The right third of the frame is obstructed by a dark blur, presumably a door frame, echoing my frustration. Although it's one of the few photos that show an entire body, it offers only a snippet of meaning.

After seeing these images, *taking* a photograph seems less metaphorical. Atwood's point of view—from tenderness to terror—operates like a study in voyeurism and rarely portrays a prisoner's point of view. But the problematic perspective makes the collection's troubling beauty even more palpable, if not entirely palatable.

The exhibition runs through Friday, November 7, at the U-M School of Art & Design's Slusser Gallery on North Campus.

—Katie Whitney

New exhibits this month:

Ann Arbor Art Center, 117 W. Liberty. *Divine Beauty in Exile: Tibetan Yak Butter Sculptures by Sonam Dhargye* (through Nov. 11). *Ann Arbor Art Center Instructor & Student Show; Jack Thompson: A Tribute* (Nov. 20–Jan. 12). Reception 20 Thurs., 5–8 p.m. 994–8004.

Ann Arbor District Library. *Malletts Creek Branch,* 3090 E. Eisenhower Pkwy. *New Work: Sculpture by Francesc Burgos and Paintings by Lynda Cole* (Nov. 2–Dec.14). 327–4510.

Barclay Gallery, 218 S. Main. *Alberto Vargas Playboy Pinups* (Nov. 1–30). 663–2900.

Dreamland Theater, 26 N. Washington St., Ypsilanti. *No More Bush* (Nov. 4–30). See 4 Tues. 657–2337.

EMU Student Center Art Gallery, 900 Oakwood, Ypsilanti. *Works by EMU Art Students Casey Dixon and Devin Sioma.* 528–3993.

First Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 4001 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. *Watercolors by William Lewis and Quilts by Garland Lewis* (Nov. 1–30). 665–6158.

Gallery 55+, 2401 Plymouth Rd. *Monday Painters: Mixed-Media Paintings by Fourteen Local Artists* (Nov. 1–Jan. 31). Reception 9 Sun., 4–5:30 p.m. 998–9354.

Gallery Project, 215 S. Fourth Ave. *Flash: An Exhibition of Graphic Art of Tattoo Culture Worldwide* (Oct. 29–Dec. 7). Reception 31 Fri., 6–9 p.m. 997–7012.

Jewish Community Center Amster Gallery, 2935 Birch Hollow. *Hebrew Calligraphy by Mordechai Rosenstein* (Nov. 1–Dec. 31). 971–0990.

Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. *Way Down East: Photography by Angie and Jim George* (Nov. 3–Dec. 30). Reception 12 Wed., 6–8 p.m. 769–2999.

Kreft Center for the Arts (Concordia University), 4090 Geddes. *The Sudan Project: Photographs by Ryan Spencer Reed* (through Dec. 7). Reception 7 Fri., 7–9 p.m. 995–7591.

Pierre Paul Gallery, 3601-C Washtenaw Ave. (Arborland). *A Color Wash: Oil and Acrylic Paintings by Various Artists* (through Jan. 3). 975–1053.

River Gallery, 120 N. Main, Chelsea. *Watercolors and Pastels by Lesa Chittenden Lim and Handblown Glass by Mark Sudduth* (through Nov. 30). 433–0826.

Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. *Works by the Michigan Surface Design Association* (Nov. 13–Dec. 13). Reception 15 Sat., 5–7 p.m. 480–2787.

U-M Art & Architecture Building Galleries, 2000 Bonisteel. *A&D's Seventh Annual All-Student Exhibition* (Nov. 14–Dec. 12). Reception 14 Fri., 6–9 p.m. 764–1300.

U-M Clements Library, 909 South University. *Idealized America in the Illustrated County Atlas* (through Feb. 6). 764–2347.

U-M Duderstadt Center Gallery, 2281 Bonisteel. *Water: A Multimedia Installation by U-M Faculty and Students* (Nov. 5–7). 763–3266.

U-M Harlan Hatcher Graduate Library, first floor. *Exhibit of Treasures from the Library's Permanent Collection* (Nov. 14). 764–9356.

U-M Map Library, Harlan Hatcher Graduate Library, eighth floor. *Linguistic Maps* (Nov. 20). 764–0407.

U-M Residential College/East Quad Art Gallery, 701 East University. *Affinities: Works by Georgette Zirbes and Ivica Vidrova* (through Dec. 5). Reception 31 Fri., 5–7 p.m. 763–0176.

U-M Taubman College Gallery, Art & Architecture Bldg., 2000 Bonisteel. *Feminist Practices* (Nov. 20–Dec. 19). 647–1736.

U-M Work, 306 S. State. *Avant-Garde Cinema in Poland by Bruce Checefsky* (Nov. 8 & 9). In conjunction with the 15th Annual Polish Film Festival (see Films). Reception 9 Sat., noon–2 p.m. 998–6178.

WSG Gallery, 306 S. Main. *Watercolors and Acrylic on Canvas by Martha Rock Keller* (Nov. 4–Dec. 24). See Observer Interview, p. 25. 761–2287.

WCC Gallery One, Student Center Bldg. *At the Junction: Photography by WCC Faculty* (through Dec. 19). Reception 5 Wed., 5–6:30 p.m. 477–8512.

For a complete listing of local galleries, see the 2008–2009 Ann Arbor Observer City Guide or arborweb.com.

10:30–11:30 a.m., AADL, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–8301 (main library), 327–4200 (branches).

U-M Club of Ann Arbor. *Every Mon.* Weekly lunchtime talks by administrative assistant Dusty Rutledge (Nov. 3, 10, & 17) and a U-M coach TBA (Nov. 24). *11:30 a.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. $14 (members, $9.25; seniors, $8.75). 663–7420.*

★Food Sessions: Cranbrook Whole Foods Market. *Nov. 3, 5, 12 & 19–21.* Lecture-demos by Whole Foods staff. Today: Susan Bellinson on **"Baked Apples for Breakfast."** Also this month: Amy Gallagher leads **"Hands-On Cake Decorating"** (Nov. 5, 11 a.m., $5 materials fee), a staffer TBA on **"Thanksgiving Ideas: How to Prepare Michigan Turkey"** (Nov. 12, 6 p.m.), Scott Rye on **"Butter Tarts"** (Nov. 19, 11 a.m.), Aaron Wynn on **"Autumn Squash Soup"** (Nov. 20, 6 p.m.), and Bellinson on **"Vegetarian Dishes for Thanksgiving"** (Nov. 21, noon). *Noon, Whole Foods Lifestyle Center, Cranbrook Village shopping center, 990 W. Eisenhower Pkwy. Free. 997–7507.*

★"Religion and the Subversive": U-M Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies. *Nov. 3, 17, & 24.* Talks by U-M professors. Today: anthropology professor Webb Keane on **"Freedom and Blasphemy: On Indonesian Press Bans and Danish Cartoons."** Also this month: Spanish professor Ryan Szpiech on **"Hijacking Scriptures in Medieval Polemics"** (Nov. 17) and English professor Ralph Williams on **"The Career of Sacred Texts: Of Sanctity and Desacralization"** (Nov. 24). *Noon, 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–0350.*

Duplicate Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Mon.* All seniors age 55 & older invited to play this popular bridge format. No partner required. *12:30–3:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $1. 769–5911.*

★Bridge: U-M Turner Geriatrics Center. *Every Mon. & Fri.* All seniors invited to play bridge. Refreshments. *1–4 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

★Mah-Jongg: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Mon & Tues.* All seniors age 50 & older invited to play this popular tile game. *1–2:30 p.m. (Mon.) & 9:30–11:30 a.m. (Tues.), Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769–5911.*

★"The Cinematic Bomb: Perception, Memory, Affect": U-M International Institute Science, Technol-

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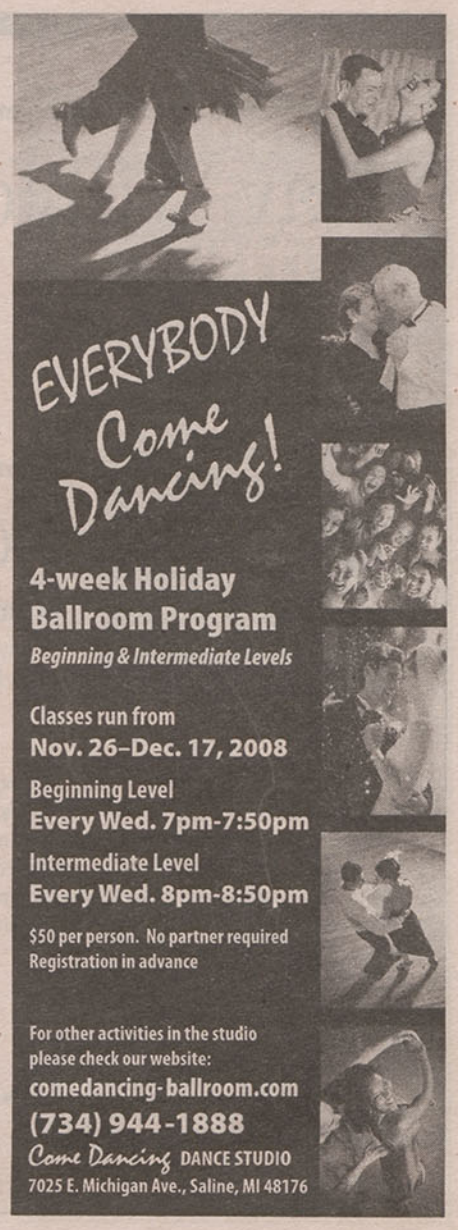

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The University of Michigan **Museum of Art** presents

Day With(out) Art

A reading and talk by

Honor Moore

MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 5PM
Hussey Room, Michigan League
911 N. University, Ann Arbor

Renowned American poet, memoirist, biographer, and playwright Honor Moore will read from her work to mark this year's Day With(out) Art. Since the first Day With(out) Art on December 1, 1989, this national day of action and mourning has commemorated the devastating toll that HIV and AIDS have taken on the worldwide arts communities. This program is cosponsored by UMMA and the Creative Writing Program of the UM Department of English and is part of the Zell Visiting Writers Series 2008–2009.

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3 MONDAY *continued*

ogy, & Society Program. Talk by University of Chicago anthropology professor Joseph Masco. *4–5:30 p.m., 1014 Tisch, 435 S. State. Free. 647–3766.*

★Michigan Marching Band Practice. *Every Mon.–Fri. through Nov. 20 & Nov. 15.* The U-M's highly disciplined 200–plus-member marching band or sections thereof can be seen and heard practicing on Elbel Field under the George R. Cavender Tower used by bandleaders for observation. All are welcome to find a spot in the bleachers and get a sneak preview of upcoming halftime shows. *4:45–6:15 p.m. (Mon.–Fri.) & 8–10 a.m. (Nov. 15), Elbel Field, Hill at Division. Free. 764–0582.*

★Sarah Dunn: U-M College of Architecture & Urban Planning. Talk by this founder of UrbanLab, an award-winning urban planning company currently working on "ecoboulevards" (linear parks) in Chicago and a master plan for Aurora, Illinois. *6 p.m., U-M Art & Architecture Bldg., 2000 Bonisteel, North Campus. Free. 936–0221.*

Cooking Sessions: Big George's Home Appliance Mart. *Nov. 3, 10, & 17.* With Big George's culinary specialist Nancy Jenkins. Today: **"All About Apples"** showcases Michigan apples in a variety of recipes from sauce to soup to pie. Also this month: **"Harvest Pies"** (Nov. 10) demonstrates delicious pies made with fall produce, and **"Turkey 101"** (Nov. 17) covers every aspect of a Thanksgiving feast except the turkey. *6:30–8 p.m., Big George's, 2023 W. Stadium. $10. Preregistration required. 669–9520.*

"A Course in Miracles": Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. *Every Mon.* All invited to join a group reading and discussion of this popular Foundation for Inner Peace metaphysical book. *6:45–8:45 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. Donation. 327–0270.*

★Weekly Rehearsal: Out Loud Chorus. *Every Mon.* Beginning to advanced singers invited to join this chorus for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people and their friends. *7–9:30 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 1400 W. Stadium. Free. 973–6084.*

★Nonfiction Readers Group: Barnes & Noble. All invited to join a discussion of *1776,* David McCullough's best-seller about the beginning of the American Revolution. Refreshments. *7 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★"The Great Outdoor Fight": Ann Arbor District Library. Vault of Midnight co-owner Curtis Sullivan moderates a Q&A with **Chris Onstad** about his new graphic novel, an adaptation of one of the storylines from *Achewood,* Onstad's popular online comic strip that's known for its absurdist, often casually surreal humor. Signing. Followed by an afterparty at Vault of Midnight, 219 S. Main. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★Renee Gladman and Peter Markus: EMU English Department Bathhouse Reading Series. Readings by these 2 writers. Gladman is a Brown University creative writing professor who edits and publishes Leon Works, a series of books for experimental prose. She has published several novels known for their elliptical prose and oblique narratives. Markus is a Trenton, Michigan, fiction writer who has published 3 acclaimed short story collections and the recent novel *Bob, or Man on Boat,* the haunting narrative of a man trying to fathom what it is the man he knows to be his father is really doing as he spends much of his time in a boat fishing on the Detroit River. "With spare but magical language, Peter Markus weaves a tale with the currents of a river, a family saga that spins through both the depths and the shallows. . . . Like the voice of the narrator, Markus uses words that skip across the surface like a stone, but take the reader to the depths of longing and loss, myth and memory," says fiction writer Pamela Ryder. *7 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 26 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–1310.*

★Derek Green: Shaman Drum Bookshop. This local freelance journalist and award-winning writer reads from *New World Order,* his new collection of short stories about Americans whose experiences abroad reveal the U.S.'s problematic position in the global market. Signing. *7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

Superchick: EMU Intervarsity Christian Fellowship. Christian rock by this popular hip-hop-inflected pop-punk garage quintet from Chicago fronted by the sister duo of Tricia and Melissa Brock. Opening acts are the Kansas rock band **Starlit Platoon,** the Ontario alt-rock band **Article One,** and the Phoenix Christian pop-punk band **Stellar Kart.** *7 p.m., EMU Student Center auditorium, 900 Oakwood (between Washtenaw & N. Huron River Dr.), EMU campus, Ypsilanti. Tickets $20 in advance at Christian Crossroads and the EMU Convocation Center and Student Center ticket offices, and at the door. To charge by phone: 487–2282. Information: 945–6533.*

★Ann Arbor Stamp Club. *Nov. 3 & 17.* Today: a **"treasure hunt"** for covers—envelopes with stamps that have passed through the mail—donated by club members. Small charge for each cover you take home. Also this month: a **holiday party** (Nov. 17) followed by a miniauction. Nonmembers welcome. *7:30 p.m., Salvation Army, 100 Arbana (park & enter at the rear of the building). Free admission. 761–5859.*

Dream Group. *Every Mon.* All invited to join veteran local social worker Rebecca Mullen to discuss their dreams from Jungian, Buddhist, and other spiritual perspectives. *7:30 p.m., 215 N. Seventh St. Donation. 662–5925.*

Tartan & Thistle Scottish Country Dancers. *Every Mon.* Instruction for intermediate-level dancers in a wide range of traditional and contemporary Scottish dances, followed by social dancing. Soft-soled shoes recommended. Refreshments. *7:30–9:30 p.m., the barn at Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver Rd. (off Nixon Rd.). $5. 769–1052, 425–0241.*

★Large Ensemble Meeting: Ann Arbor Recorder Society. All beginning and advanced players of the recorder and other early instruments invited. Directed by local flutist Corrine Hillebrand. Music provided; bring your own music stand. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by a beginners class. *7:30–9:30 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Free to visitors ($30 annual dues). 213–3172.*

Pub Quiz: Conor O'Neill's Irish Pub. *Every Mon.* Local high school English teacher Geoff Cost throws out questions for anyone to answer at this popular weekly trivia fest. Prizes. *8:30–11:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. $5 team fee. 665–2968.*

4 TUESDAY

★Election Day. The city ballot features a contested **council race** in the 5th Ward, and uncontested council races in the other 4 wards. The main attraction, of course, is the hotly contested **presidential election.** Also, various **county, state, and federal races** and **state, county, and local ballot issues.** Be sure to bring a photo ID. *Polls are open 7 a.m.–8 p.m. If you are unsure about where to vote or need information about absentee ballots, call the city clerk at 994–2725 or the county clerk at 994–2500.*

★Game Day: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Tues.* All seniors age 50 & older invited to play poker, mah-jongg, Scrabble, bridge, tile rummy, and Wii bowling, boxing, and more. *9:30–11:30 a.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769–5911.*

★Preschool Storytimes: Ann Arbor District Library. *Every Tues.* Stories and songs for kids age 2 & up (accompanied by an adult). *Note:* These storytimes are also offered at the Malletts Creek (Wed., 10–10:30 a.m.), Traverwood (Wed., 6–6:30 p.m., and Thurs. except Nov. 27, 10–10:30 & 11–11:30 a.m.), and Pittsfield (Thurs. except Nov. 27, 7–7:30 p.m., and Fri., 10–10:30 a.m.) branches. *10–10:30 a.m., AADL youth department story room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–8301 (main library), 327–4200 (branches).*

★Jewish Older Adults: Jewish Community Center. *Every Tues.* Activities begin at 10 a.m. with **"Fitness Fun"** ($4), a 60-minute exercise program led by Maria Farquhar, followed at 1 p.m. by a chance to play **mah-jongg, cards,** and **board games** or join **quilting** and other craft projects. Homemade buffet luncheon ($3) available at noon. All invited. *11 a.m.–3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971–0990.*

★Children's Hour: Shaman Drum Bookshop. *Every Tues.* Shaman Drum staff read picture books for kids ages 2–6. *11 a.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

★Noon Lecture Series: U-M Center for Chinese Studies. *Every Tues.* Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. Free sandwiches, cookies, & coffee served. Today: University of Minnesota sociology professor Yanjie Bian discusses **"The Rise of Guanxi in Chinese Transition Economy."** Also this month: Princeton University Wilson-Cotsen fellow Mayling Birney discusses **"Building the Rule of Law Around Democratic Reforms: Influences on the Enforcement and Defiance of Village Election Laws in China"** (Nov. 11), U-M political science professor Mary Gallagher discusses **"Legislating Harmony: Why Chinese Laws Are So Good and Implementation So Bad"** (Nov. 18), Wen Yuhang, a performer of the classical Chinese theater genre *kunqu,* discusses **"Singing, Chanting, and Acting in Kunqu"** (Nov. 25). *Noon–1 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–6308.*

★Brown Bag Lecture: U-M Institute for the Humanities. *Every Tues. except Nov. 25.* Bring a bag lunch. Today: U-M American culture and history professor Philip Deloria discusses **"The Perils and Poetics of Family Memoir."** Also this month: U-M anthropology grad student Yolanda Covington-Ward discusses **"Enacted Theologies: The Role of Embodied Cultural Performance in a Kongo**

Saxophonist Joe Lovano

A great tenor returns

For many the tenor saxophone is the totemic instrument of mainstream jazz, and Joe Lovano is one of its prime high priests. Born in Cleveland into a family that worshipped music, he was largely self taught, although mentored by his father, "Big T," a barber who also gigged around town on the tenor. Lovano eventually studied at the famous Berklee College of Music in Boston, where he graduated in 1972.

Lovano went on to work with two hard-playing jazz organists, Lonnie Smith and Jack McDuff, as well as with the big bands of Woody Herman and Mel Lewis. These gigs allowed him to develop the hard-hitting, emotional style he had learned playing club dates and bars in his hometown. At the same time he expanded his musical horizons through participation in the New York experimental "loft scene" and by playing with musicians such as Rashid Ali and Sam Rivers. In 1985 he made his first recording as a leader, which has been followed by more than thirty more; his most recent release, *Symphonica* (Blue Note), is a collaboration with a German big band and a full symphony orchestra.

Lovano has developed a recognizable personal style that draws upon the whole history of jazz tenor saxophone playing; while he has absorbed the sophisticated harmonic language of John Coltrane and his successors, his big, brawny tone owes more to the followers of Coleman Hawkins, and even to bar honkers and bluesy players such as Hal Singer. He writes many of his own tunes but also plays standards and modern jazz anthems, and he's equally at ease in duets with ninety-year-old pianist Hank Jones or with newcomers such as twenty-something Esperanza Spalding. Although known primarily for his original tenor sax voice, Lovano plays many different woodwinds, and is especially effective on the rarely heard alto clarinet. He has recently been featuring the Aulochrome, a new invention by François Louis that resembles two fused soprano saxophones.

Lovano returned to Berklee as a faculty member in 2001. For the last few years he has been touring with a group of Berklee faculty and students, including James Weidman on piano, Esperanza Spalding on bass, and the dual drum sets of Francisco Mela and Otis Brown. The energy of the young players, and particularly of the complex rhythms generated by the drummers, has reinvigorated Lovano, who seems to thrive on the vigor of the band. Even though the rhythm section stays mainly in a safe mainstream modern jazz zone, the leader often takes more chances than he does in other surroundings, and blends his regular jazz grounding with the lessons he learned from his more avant-garde colleagues, often taking his solos into the outer regions of improvisation. Lovano is a master of rhythmic displacement, and he reacts heartily to the propulsion of the percussion, which is hardly surprising, as he is himself a first-rate drummer.

This quintet is at the Michigan Theater on Friday, November 7. The opening half features Lovano in duets with the wonderful pianist Jason Moran.

—Piotr Michalowski

Church" (Nov. 11), and U-M anthropology professor Elisha Renne discusses **"Contesting Yoruba Religious Heritage in Nigeria"** (Nov. 18). *Noon–1:30 p.m., 202 S. Thayer, room 2022. Free. 936–3518.*

★**"Bach's Lunch Organ Concert Series": Bethlehem United Church of Christ.** Local organist Timothy Huth plays works by Alain, Bach, Jannequin, and Simonds. Followed by lunch ($5). *12:15 p.m., Bethlehem United Church of Christ, 423 S. Fourth Ave. Free. 665–6149.*

★**Newcomers Coterie Club of Ann Arbor.** A custom floral arranger from the local company Design Masters helps participants make their own **autumn floral arrangement.** All women who have recently moved or returned to the Ann Arbor–Ypsilanti area invited. Coffee, tea, & dessert served. Preceded at 11:30 a.m. by lunch (preregistration required). *12:30 p.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. Free. Low-cost child care arrangements available in advance only. 761–9153.*

★**"No More Bush": Dirty Bros.** All invited to discuss the presidential election. Also, an art exhibit (see Galleries) featuring politically charged works with phallic symbolism. *6 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 26 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. Free. 657–2337.*

★**"Knit Happens": Ann Arbor Stitch 'n' Bitch.** *Every Tues.* All knitters invited to bring their current projects to work on and swap knitting tips. *6:30–8:30 p.m., location TBA. Free. 945–3035.*

★**Common Thread Knitters Club.** *Nov. 4 & 18.* All knitters invited to meet members of this local knitting group and exchange tips. *7 p.m., Arborland Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 677–6948.*

★**Ann Arbor Area Writers Group: Arborland Borders.** *Every Tues.* All local writers invited to bring samples of their writing to read and discuss. Observers welcome. *7–9 p.m., Borders computer section, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 665–8194.*

★**"The Sound and the Fury: Between Brenner and Dostoevsky": U-M Center for Russian & East European Studies.** Talk by Northwestern German professor Marcus Moseley. *7–8:30 p.m., 202 S. Thayer, room 2022. Free. 764–0351.*

★**Sweet Adelines County Connection.** *Every Tues.* All women invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local 40-member barbershop harmony chorus. *7–10:30 p.m., UAW Local 898 Hall, 8975 Textile Rd. (west of Rawsonville Rd. off I-94), Ypsilanti. Free to visitors ($20 monthly dues for those who join). 480–8843.*

English Country Dancing: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. *Every Tues.* Historical and traditional English dancing. Today: callers Shirley Harden and Bronwen Gates with music by Childgrove. Also this month: callers Ray Bantle and Drake Meadow with music by Debbie Jackson, Martha Stokely, and Brad Battey (Nov. 11), callers Harden and Greg Meisner with music by the Scalar Scalawags (Nov. 18), and callers Arlene Kindel and Don Theyken with music by Childgrove (Nov. 25). All dances taught. No partner or experience needed. Dress comfortably and bring flat, nonslip shoes (running shoes OK). *7–9:30 p.m., Chapel Hill Condominium clubhouse, 3350 Green Rd. $7 (students, $4; children age 13 & under, free). 665–7704.*

★**Huron Valley Harmonizers Chapter of SPEBSQSA.** *Every Tues.* All male singers invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local barbershop harmony chorus. *7:30 p.m., Stony Creek United Methodist Church, 8635 Stony Creek Rd., Ypsilanti. Free to visitors ($130 annual dues for those who join). Newcomers should call in advance. For information, call Greg Humbel at 445–1925.*

★**Weekly Rehearsal: Treetown Community Chorus.** *Every Tues.* All invited to join this fun-loving independent local mixed chorus to sing mostly familiar tunes, along with some serious music, in various genres. David Perample directs. *7:30–9 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh at Davis. Free to visitors ($80 per semester membership dues). 213–3770.*

"The Swift Path": Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. *Every Tues.* Talks by **Gehlek Rimpoche**, an incarnate lama from Tibet who lives in Ann Arbor, or one of Gehlek's senior students. *7:30–9 p.m., Jewel Heart Center, 1129 Oak Valley Dr. (just south of Ann Arbor–Saline Rd.). $10 (students & seniors, $5). 994–3387.*

★**"About Rudolf Steiner's Insights into Human Life": Rudolf Steiner Study Circle of Ann Arbor.** *Nov. 4 & 18.* 5th & 6th in a series of 7 biweekly lectures by U-M physics professor emeritus Ernst Katz. Tonight's topic: **"The Process of Incarnation and Karma."** Also this month: **"The Value of the Arts"** (Nov. 18). *7:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes. Free. 485–3764.*

★**German Speakers' Round Table.** *Every Tues.* All German speakers invited for conversation. *8 p.m., Grizzly Peak Brewing Company, 120 W. Washington. Free admission. 665–2931.*

★**Election Night Party: Michigan Peaceworks.** All peaceniks invited to watch the election results. Potluck dinner. Bring a dish to pass and your own beverage. *8 p.m., location TBA. Free. 761–5922.*

"Firefly Funnies": The Firefly Club. Showcase of top local stand-up comics, along with some improv comedy. *8–11 p.m., Firefly Club, 637 S. Main. $3. 665–9090.*

★**"Triple Double Trivia": The Arena Sports Grille and Bar.** *Every Tues.* All invited to try a wide-ranging trivia quiz for such prizes as T-shirts, hats, and gift certificates. Bonus points awarded for "stupid human tricks" like drinking beer upside down, dancing to Michael Jackson songs, or inserting an entire fist into your mouth. *11 p.m., The Arena, 203 E. Washington. Free. 222–9999.*

5 WEDNESDAY

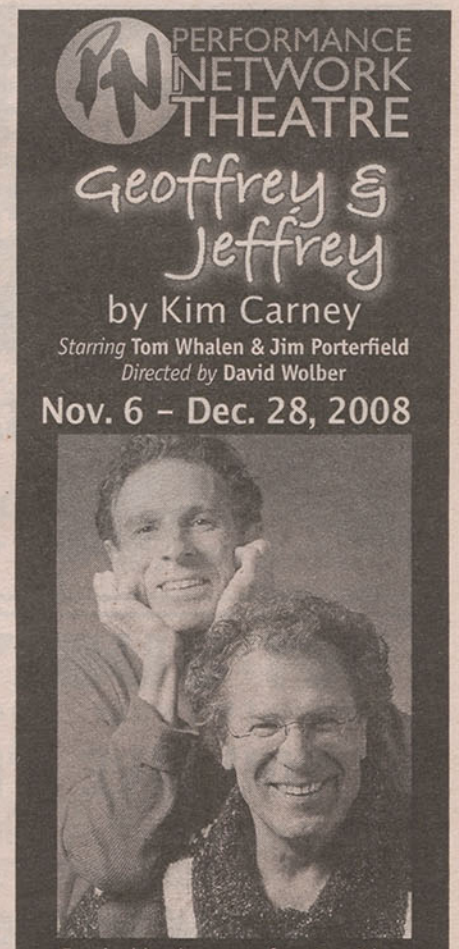
★**21st Annual Jewish Book Festival: Jewish Community Center.** *Nov. 5–7, 9–14, 16, & 17.* Display and sale (at retail prices) of more than 2,000 new books by Jewish authors, ranging from cookbooks, expensive gift books, children's books, and reference books to books by local authors and new titles hot off the presses. (Publishers plan their releases for November, which is Jewish Book Month.) The fair also includes a number of talks and performances by various Jewish authors. Today at 7:30 p.m., MSU humanities professor Ilana Blumberg discusses her book ***House of Study: A Jewish Woman among Books.*** *9 a.m.–9:30 p.m., Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971–0990.*

"Trampas: Trickster Tales from South of the Border": Wild Swan Theater. *Nov. 5–8.* This award-winning local children's theater company presents a set of bilingual South American stories about wily characters, such as a guinea pig who convinces a fox to hold a large rock over his head all day to keep the sky from falling. With sing-alongs in English and Spanish. As with all Wild Swan productions, the performance is interpreted in American Sign Language. Audio description and backstage "touch" tours are available by prearrangement for blind audience members. Suitable for kids in grades K to 8. *10 a.m. & 12:30 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets $12 (children, $8; lap passes for kids age 2 & under, $3) in advance and at the door. 995–0530.*

Frances Renzi: Society for Musical Arts. Performance by this acclaimed Toledo Symphony pianist. Program TBA. Followed by a meet-the-artist lunch ($12). *10:30 a.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. $15 (accompanying friend, $13; students, $5) at the door only. Lunch reservations required. 662–3279.*

★**"Storytime with Miss Annette": Arborland Borders.** *Every Wed. & Fri.* Borders staffer "Miss Annette" reads stories and leads a craft project for toddlers. Also, raffle. *11 a.m., Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 449–9394.*

Noon Lecture Series: Kempf House Center for Local History. *Nov. 5 & 12.* Today: **"The Story of 1526 Pontiac Trail,"** a talk by Pat McCauley on his research into the 1840s house in which he lives. Also this month: Keweenaw County Historical Society trustee Duffy Liddicoat discusses **"Central Mine**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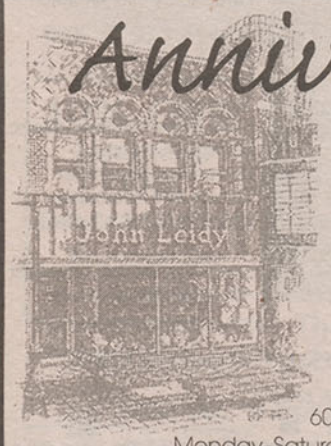

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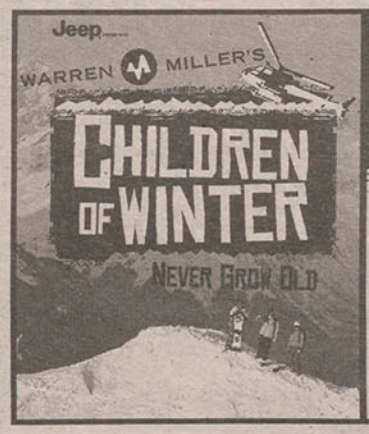

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5 WEDNESDAY *continued*

Location in Copper Country" (Nov. 12). *Noon–1 p.m., Kempf House, 312 S. Division. Admission $2 (Kempf House members, $1). 994–4898.*

★**Social Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** *Every Wed.* All seniors age 50 & older invited to play bridge. No partner required. *12:45–3:45 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769–5911.*

★**Chess: U-M Turner Geriatrics Center.** *Every Wed.* All seniors invited to play chess. Refreshments. *1–4 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

★**Lecture Series: U-M Center for Near Eastern Studies.** *Nov. 5, 6, & 10.* Talks by visiting scholars. Today: Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes (Paris) religious studies scholar Orkhan Mir-Kasimov discusses **"Peripheral Religious Thought in Post-Mongol Iran: Example of the Hurufis."** Also this month: Ancient Egypt Research Associates director Mark Lehner on **"The Giza Plateau in the New Millennium"** (Nov. 6, time & location TBA) and University of Rochester religion professor Emil Homerin on **"A Woman Mystic from 15th-Century Damascus: 'A'ishah al-Ba'uniyah, Her Life and Work"** (Nov. 10). *4 p.m., 2022 Thayer, 202 S. Thayer. Free. 764–0314.*

★**Scrabble: Ann Arbor Scrabblers.** *Every Wed.* All invited to join local Scrabble enthusiasts to play this popular word game. Bring a board and tiles, if you have them. *5–8 p.m., Arbor Brewing, 114 E. Washington. Free. 994–0084.*

★**"Balance of Power? Prospects for Renewable and Nonrenewable Energy": U-M Exhibit Museum Science Cafe.** Talks by U-M geological sciences professor Steve Kesler and U-M Center for Sustainable Systems codirector Greg Keoleian. Followed by discussion. *5:30–7:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. Free. 764–0478.*

Wine Tasting: Paesano's Restaurant. *Every Wed.* A chance to sample 5 different Italian wines each week, in an informal and friendly setting, with a selection of appetizers. *6–7 p.m., Paesano's, 3411 Washtenaw. Space limited; reservations recommended. $20. 971–0484.*

★**"Photography: Taking It Personally": Washtenaw Community College.** Talk by renowned Detroit photographer and Pulitzer Prize nominee **Michelle Andonian.** In conjunction with the current Gallery-One exhibit (see Galleries). *6:30 p.m., WCC Gunder Myran Bldg., room 12, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 973–3327.*

Ann Arbor Bridge Club. *Every Wed.* Each 2-person team plays 2 or 3 hands against a dozen or so other pairs during the evening. Players at all levels welcome. If you plan to come without a partner, call in advance or arrive 20 minutes early to arrange for one. *7–11 p.m., Walden Hills clubhouse, 2114 Pauline at Maple. (Park on the north side of Pauline.) $3 per person. 971–7530.*

"Raise Your Glass or Drown Your Sorrows: Post-election Martini Tasting": Eve Restaurant. Eve Restaurant staff member Ari Sussman leads a tasting of classic, innovative, and seasonal martinis. With hors d'oeuvres. *7 p.m., Eve, Kerrytown. $40. Preregistration required. 222–0711.*

"Delicatessen Tastings": Zingerman's Delicatessen. *Nov. 5, 12, & 19.* Zingerman's staff and guest food experts discuss and offer taste samples of various gourmet delights. Today: **"Foods We're Thankful For."** Also this month: **"Smoked Fish"** (Nov. 12) with Tracklements Smokery owner T. R. Durham and **"American Artisanal Cheeses"** (Nov. 19) with Zingerman's cheese buyer Carlos Souffront. *7–9 p.m., Zingerman's Next Door (upstairs), 422 Detroit St. $20 in advance, $25 (if available) at the door. Space limited; reservations recommended. 663–3354.*

★**"Oxygenate Your Body with Raw Foods": People's Food Co-op.** Talk by local raw foods chef Michael Dwyer. *7–8:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required. 994–4589.*

"Past Presidents Dinner": Zingerman's Roadhouse. Roadhouse chef Alex Young hosts a dinner featuring recipes served to former presidents. *7 p.m., Zingerman's Roadhouse, 2501 Jackson. $45. Reservations required. 663–3663.*

★**"Zoning Changes for Downtown Ann Arbor": Ann Arbor District Library.** City planner Wendy Rampson discusses the history of downtown planning and zoning and outlines the draft of zoning and parking changes the city planning commission recently adopted and sent to city council. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★**"Introduction to Judaism": Holy Faith Episcopal & Lutheran Church of Saline.** Talk by Beth Israel Congregation rabbi Robert Dobrusin. Discussion follows. Refreshments. *7 p.m., Holy Faith Church, 6299 Ann Arbor Saline Rd. Free. 429–2991.*

Judy Wicks: Think Local First. Talk by this White Dog Cafe (Philadelphia) owner and Business Alliance for Local Living Economies cofounder. Wicks was named the James Beard Foundation's 2005 Humanitarian of the Year, and she won the 2008 International Association of Culinary Professionals Humanitarian Award. Refreshments and door prizes. Preceded at 6 p.m. by the Think Local First annual meeting. *7 p.m., Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $20 (students & members, $15) in advance at Found Gallery, Nicola's Books, Shaman Drum, and The Peaceable Kingdom, and (if available) at the door. 730–6905.*

★**"Genealogies of Citizenship: Markets, Statelessness, and the Right to Have Rights": Shaman Drum Bookshop.** U-M sociology and history professor **Margaret Somers** discusses her new study of the way the growing authority of the market is distorting the nature of citizenship. Signing. *7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

★**Works-in-Progress Series: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** *Nov. 5 & 19.* Featured writers read from their current work. Tonight: poetry readings by **Aaron McCullough** and **Adam Boehmer.** *7–9:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★**Shamanic Journeys: Magical Education Council.** *Every Wed.* Using special postures, participants enter a meditative state to the beat of a shaman's drum and discuss their experiences afterward. *7:30 p.m., Inter-Cooperative Council Education Center, 1522 Hill (in the carriage house behind the co-op buildings). Free. 214–2755.*

★**Visitors Night: Ann Arbor Model Railroad Club.** All invited to check out the trains whizzing around on the club's big, elaborate layout, housed in a depot restored by the club. *7:30–10 p.m., Michigan Central depot, 3487 Broad St., Dexter. Free. 426–5100.*

★**Symphony Band Chamber Winds: U-M School of Music.** U-M grad student conductors Donald McKinney, Tim Krohn, and Courtney Snyder direct this music-student ensemble in "Harmoniemusik" from Mozart's *Don Giovanni,* George Antheil's Chamber Concerto, Silvestre Revueltas's *Homenaje a Federico Garcia Lorca,* and Emil Hartmann's Serenade in B-Flat Major. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Nov. 5, 19, & 26.* Performances by up to 12 aspiring area stand-up comics. Alcohol is served. *8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. $5 in advance and at the door. 996–9080.*

★**"Greenhills Stargazers": Greenhills School.** *Nov. 5 & 21.* All invited to join Greenhills teacher Deano Smith and Greenhills astronomy students to look at the sky through binoculars (bring your own, if you have them) and the school's telescope. *8:30–10 p.m., Greenhills School (park near the athletic entrance), 850 Greenhills Dr. Free. 205–4037.*

★**"More Effective C#: 50 Specific Ways to Improve Your C#": Liberty Borders.** Software designer **Bill Wagner** discusses his new book about the programming language C#. Signing. *8:30 p.m., Borders, 612 E. Liberty. Free. 668–7652.*

"Juke Box Jungle": Conor O'Neill's Irish Pub. *Every Wed.* Conor O'Neill's staff member Brian Aherne hosts a music trivia quiz. Prizes. *9–11:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. $3 team fee. 665–2968.*

Wednesdays @ Michigan Union: Swing Ann Arbor. *Every Wed.* Swing dancing to prerecorded music. No partner needed. Bring casual or nicer shoes that stay on your feet when you're active. Preceded by intermediate swing (7:30 p.m.) and beginning swing (8:30 p.m.) lessons. *9:30–11 p.m., Michigan Union Pendleton Room (occasionally Ballroom or U-Club). $5 (includes lessons). 945–8428.*

6 THURSDAY

★**21st Annual Jewish Book Festival: Jewish Community Center.** See 5 Wednesday. Today: Bar Ilan University (Israel) creative writing professor **Evan Fallenberg** reads from his debut novel ***Light Fell*** (noon), a story of betrayal, forgiveness, religiosity, and nationalism in one Orthodox family set in 1996 Tel Aviv, and local freelance journalist **Julie Halpert** discusses her and Rutgers sociology professor Deborah Carr's ***Making Up with Mom: Why Mothers and Daughters Disagree about Kids, Careers, and Casseroles (and What to Do about It)*** (7:30 p.m.), an essay collection on mother-daughter relationships. 9 a.m.–9:30 p.m.

★**"Yoga."** A chance to meet yoga therapist and healer **Ma Maneesha** and ask her questions about yoga, yoga therapy, ayurveda, and meditation. A disciple of

bluegrass

Cadillac Sky

Texas-size bluegrass

When Cadillac Sky's album *Blind Man Walking* appeared early last year, bluegrass fans didn't know quite what to make of it. These musicians from Fort Worth, Texas, took the generally conservative sound of bluegrass and set it on its head with all-original songs that were, in a word, extreme. They were fast, they were loud, they quoted Marcel Proust on their CD insert ("The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes but in having new eyes"), they broke into a full-fledged black gospel style in one number, they sang lines like "I'm at the mercy of my DNA," they wrote about stress and insomnia ("poured a bottle of Nyquil in my veins"). Blogs buzzed with news of conflict between the band and bluegrass festival promoters unused to the dynamic range and occasional electronic effects, and indeed the booklet for *Blind Man Walking* truculently offers "No thanks to the small-minded, high gas prices, and all apathetic soundmen past and future."

But here's the thing about Cadillac Sky: they don't play "progressive bluegrass" or "newgrass" as those terms are usually understood. On one hand, they stick closer to the roots, and on the other they avoid the laid-back jazz and alternative-rock influences that have defined progressive bluegrass from New Grass Revival (who certainly influenced Cadillac Sky) to Nickel Creek. The theme of "Born Lonesome" is as traditional as could be desired, but it's delivered in extraordinarily broad gestures—"I came out cryin', wailin' like an old freight train./Nurse tried to hold me, but I just pushed her away"—delivered in a full-throated vocal and a spacious sound that could just as easily be filled out by rock instruments as by bluegrass ones. The major outside influence on Cadillac Sky's music is not jazz but southern rock, and they have a knack for making purely acoustic instruments (a didgeridoo in one case) sound as if they're playing electric guitar power chords. The big sound is balanced in turn by a Manichaean southern Protestantism in which God and Satan contend on the ground of everyday lives.

The only bluegrass band around today that's remotely comparable to Cadillac Sky is the six-man Mountain Heart, whose high-powered music has been built by the Ark into a local favorite among bluegrass audiences. Cadillac Sky pulls the music even further in a modern, youthful direction, and even if these musicians are caught up right now in trying to outdo a really striking first effort—their recent sophomore CD *Gravity's Our Enemy* is as original as their debut but less focused—their efforts bode well for the future of a genre that was almost written off for dead a decade ago.

Cadillac Sky makes its local debut at the Ark on Wednesday, November 19 (see Nightspots, p. 81).

—James M. Manheim

Nithya Yoga founder Paramahamsa Nithyananda, Maneesha was trained by Krishnamacharya Yoga exponent Desikachar. Maneesha also hosts a free **Nithya Yoga session** at Sun Moon Yoga (404 W. Huron) on Nov. 5, 10 a.m.–11:30 p.m. *10–11 a.m., Ann Arbor District Library 3rd-floor FreeSpace, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. Preregistration recommended. 277–5460.*

"Religion and Ethnicity in Other Cultures": U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. *Nov. 6, 13, & 25 and Dec. 4, 11, & 18.* A series of 6 lectures by different U-M and guest scholars. Today: U-M sociology professor Genevieve Zubrzycki discusses **"The Crosses of Auschwitz: Catholicism, Polish Nationalism, and Anti-Semitism."** Also this month: WCC humanities professor Elisabeth Thoburn on **"Art, Culture, Politics, and Daily Life"** (Nov. 13), and U-M political science professor Ronald Inglehart on **"Why Religion Didn't Disappear"** (Nov. 25). *10–11:30 a.m., Best Western Executive Conference Center, 2900 Jackson Rd. $45 (members, $30) for the 6-lecture series, $25 (members, $10) per lecture. Memberships are $15 a year. Preregistration required. 998–9351.*

★Thursday Lunch Bunch: Jewish Community Center. *Every Thurs. except Nov. 27.* A weekly program of activities primarily for seniors. The program begins at 10 a.m. with **"Fitness Fun,"** a 60-minute exercise program led by Maria Farquhar. At 11 a.m., a **Current Events** discussion group. At noon (Nov. 6 & 13) or 1 p.m. (Nov. 20), a cultural or educational program. Today: **Evan Fallenberg** reads from and discusses his novel ***Light Fell*** (see Jewish Book Festival listing above). Preceded at 12:30 p.m. by a celebration of November birthdays. Also this month: Aaron Cohen discusses his ***Brotherhood of Warriors*** (see 13 Thursday Jewish Book Festival listing), and *Ann Arbor News* assistant metro editor Lynn Monson discusses his recent trip with local veterans to **"The World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C."** (Nov. 20). Also, at 12:30 p.m. on Nov. 20, Jewish Family Services **geriatric social worker Allison Pollock** is on hand to answer questions. The day concludes at 2:15 p.m. with a meeting of the **Senior Literary Group**, a book discussion group led by U-M Dearborn English professor emeritus Sidney Warschausky. Also, at noon, a homemade dairy lunch ($3 with reservation, $4 without reservation and for nonseniors). *10 a.m.–3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971–0990.*

★"The Bible in Its Time: An Introduction to the Bible and Literature of the Ancient Near East": Jewish Community Center. *Every Thurs. through Nov. 6.* Lecture series by U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies visiting scholar Lisbeth Fried. *10 a.m.–noon, JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971–0990.*

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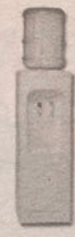

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2008-2009 Season
Pioneer Theatre Guild

Photo by Myra Klarman

Miss Saigon
(new school edition world premiere)
by Claude-Michel Schonberg, Richard Maltby Jr. and Alain Boublil
Sat. Nov. 8, Fri. Nov. 14, Sat. Nov. 15 at 7:30 pm & Sun. Nov. 9 & 16 at 2 pm

FutureStars 2009
Preliminary Competitions - 4 shows/4 genres
Fri. Jan. 9: ***Now Showing: Current Broadway Shows*** (7 pm)
On My iPod (9:30 pm, Students Only)
Sat. Jan. 10: ***The Times They Are A'Changin*** *- songs from the late 60's and early 70's* (7 pm)
Love Stinks (9:30 pm, Students Only)
Final Competition - Sat. Jan. 17 at 7:30 pm

On the Verge
by Eric Overmyer
(Pioneer's entry into the annual MIFA one-act play competition)
Public Performances:
Fri. Jan. 30 & Sat. Jan. 31 at 7:30 pm

The Heidi Chronicles
by Wendy Wasserstein
Fri. Apr. 3, Sat. Apr. 4 at 7:30 pm, Sun. Apr. 5 at 2 pm

Urinetown
by Greg Kotis and Mark Hollman
Sat. Apr. 25, Fri. May 1 & Sat. May 2 at 7:30 pm, & Sun. Apr. 26 & Sun. May 3 at 2 pm

Student Productions
Fri. May 15 & Sat. May 16 at 7:30 pm & Sun. May 17 at 2 pm

Comedy Troupe *- 3 performances to be announced!*

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6 THURSDAY *continued*

"Trampas: Trickster Tales from South of the Border": Wild Swan Theater. See 5 Wednesday. 10 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.

ACBL Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Thurs.* All seniors age 50 & older invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. No partner required. *Noon–3:30 p.m., Cobblestone Farm barn, 2781 Packard. $5. 769–5911.*

★"Gender-Based Violence and Women's Health Across the Life-Course": U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender. Talk by visiting scholar Laura McCloskey. Bring a bag lunch. *Noon, 2239 Lane Hall, 204 S. State. Free. 764–9537.*

★Noon Lecture Series: U-M Center for Japanese Studies. *Nov. 6, 13, & 20.* Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. Today: U-M psychology professor Twila Tardif discusses **"Kireru? Or Just Plain Mad: Emotion Regulation in Japanese, Chinese, and U.S. Preschoolers."** Also this month: Yale University theater professor Reginald Jackson on **"The Genji Scrolls: 'Tangled Script' as Ideology"** (Nov. 13) and U-M history and women's studies professor Hitomi Tonomura on **"Samurai in Lament: Letters of a Family Man in the 14th-Century War"** (Nov. 20). *Noon, 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–6307.*

★Noon Lectures: U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies. *Nov. 6 & 20.* Today: Tel-Aviv University Jewish history professor Aharon Oppenheimer discusses **"Recent Developments in the Study of the Bar Kokhva Revolt."** Also this month: U-M Slavic and Judaic studies professor Mikhail Krutikov discusses **"Searching for a Shtetl in the 21st Century"** (Nov. 20). *Noon, Frankel Center, 202 S. Thayer. Free. 763–9047.*

★Gifts of Art: U-M Hospitals. *Nov. 6, 13, & 20.* Performances by local musicians. Today: contemporary Spanish and Chinese piano music by U-M piano professor **Xiaofeng Wu.** Also this month: jazz standards by the **Edie Herrold Trio** (Nov. 13) and Celtic, contemporary, bluegrass, and Latin music by **Acoustic Eidolon** (Nov. 20). *12:10 p.m., U-M Hospital lobby, 1500 E. Medical Center Dr. (off Fuller). Free. 936–ARTS.*

★Thursday Lecture Series: U-M Eisenberg Institute for Historical Studies. *Nov. 6 & 20.* Today: University of Washington history professor Nikhil Singh discusses **"Genealogies of Rollback: Race and War in U.S. Globalism."** Also this month: Washington University medieval history professor Mark Pegg on **"Holy War and Sacred Violence in Latin Christendom"** (Nov. 20). *4 p.m., Tisch Hall, 435 S. State St. Free. 764–6305.*

★"Bits of Behavior/Concepts Prior to Words: The Emotional Intuition of Form": U-M Institute for the Humanities Marc & Constance Jacobson Lecture. Lecture by University of Chicago art history professor emerita Barbara Maria Stafford, author of *Echo Objects: The Cognitive Work of Images.* Followed by a panel discussion with Stafford, U-M psychology professor Susan Gelman, and U-M art history professor Alex Potts. *4–6 p.m., Michigan League Michigan Room. Free. 936–3518.*

★"Getting Organized at Home and at Work": U-M Center for the Education of Women. Talk by Organizing to Be Effective president Beverly Rogers. *4:30–6:30 p.m., CEW, 330 E. Liberty. Free. Preregistration required by Nov. 4. 764–6005.*

★"Yappy Hours": DogmaCatmantoo. *Every Thurs.* All invited to join a casual group discussion about pets and pet-related issues. Bring your pet. Snacks. *5–7 p.m., DogmaCatmantoo, 208 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 929–0022.*

"Thursday Night Rush Hour Relief at the Wine Bar": Cranbrook Whole Foods Market. *Every Thurs. except Nov. 27.* Whole Foods staff discuss wine and cheese. Also, tastings and small plates of food. Today's topic: **"Red Zinfandel."** Also this month: **"Pinot Noir"** (Nov. 13) and **"Beaujolais Nouveau"** (Nov. 20). Also on Nov. 14, 5–8 p.m., a **holiday wine tasting** (small charge for each taste) with holiday food samples. *5–7 p.m., Whole Foods Wine Bar, 990 W. Eisenhower Pkwy., Cranbrook Village shopping center. $17. 997–7507.*

★Stephen Burt: U-M English Department. Poetry reading by this Harvard English professor whose poetry treats highbrow and pop culture with equal regard. Burt's 2006 collection *Parallel Play* includes a poem about *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* and is rife with alone-in-a-crowd personas and simple domestic observations, such as "our borrowed kitten, black and white like ice,/chases full bottles of aspirin and makes no sound." *5 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater. Free. 615–3710.*

★"The Great Pretender": U-M School of Art and Design Penny Stamps Lecture Series. Dutch artist **Theo Jansen** discusses his book about his sophisticated "kinetic sculptures" that move by solar or wind power. These huge skeletal figures mimic animals in their movement and independence, putting pressure on traditional distinctions between life and matter. *5 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 647–2337.*

★Board Game Night: Get Your Game On. *Every Thurs. except Nov. 27.* All invited to bring their own favorite board game or play one of the store's. *6 p.m., Get Your Game On, 709 Packard. Free. 786–3746.*

U-M Men's Basketball vs. Saginaw Valley State. *7 p.m., Crisler Arena. $15 & $22. 764–0247.*

★Meditation and Chanting: Siddha Yoga Meditation Center of Ann Arbor. *Every Thurs.* All invited for chanting and meditation. *7–8:30 p.m., Siddha Yoga, Arbor Atrium, suite 280, 315 W. Huron. Free. 747–7116.*

ACBL Bridge: Ann Arbor City Club. *Every Thurs. except Nov. 27.* All invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. No partner required. *7 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. $5. 761–6691.*

"White Dog Dinner with Judy Wicks": Zingerman's Roadhouse/Avalon Housing. Roadhouse chef Alex Young and food celebrity and activist Wicks (see 5 Wednesday) host a multicourse feast seasoned with Wicks's stories and anecdotes about her experiences. A benefit for Avalon Housing. *7 p.m., Zingerman's Roadhouse, 2501 Jackson. $145 ($250 includes admission to a predinner cocktail reception). Reservations required. 663–3663.*

Higher Consciousness Group: Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. *Every Thurs. except Nov. 27.* All invited to discuss and practice techniques to raise consciousness. *7–8:30 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. Donation. 353–0906.*

★"Finding Funding for a College Education": Ann Arbor District Library. Talk by U-M foundation and grants librarian Karen Downing. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch computer training lab, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–4200.*

★Huron Hills Lapidary & Mineral Society. Screening of a video on **agates.** Also, club members show their agate specimens. *7 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church social hall, 900 S. Seventh St. Free. 665–5574.*

★Reiki: Center for Intuitive Health. Local reiki master Ray Golden discusses this healing technique and gives minitreatments. *7 p.m., location TBA. Free. 663–9724.*

★"Stress & Fatigue": Plum Market. Talk by local chiropractor Shannon Roznay. *7 p.m., Plum Market lounge, Maple Village shopping center. Free. Preregistration requested. 827–5000.*

★"The Sound & the Fury: Between Brenner & Dostoyevsky": U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies. Talk by Northwestern University Jewish studies professor Marcus Moseley. *7 p.m., Frankel Center, 202 S. Thayer. Free. 763–9047.*

★"Chicago's Architecture: From the Great Fire of 1871 to the Great Fair of 1893": Ann Arbor District Library. Talk by U-M architecture professor emeritus Kingsbury Marzolf. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327–4200.*

★"The Longest Trip Home": Liberty Borders. Pennsylvania writer **John Grogan,** best-selling author of *Marley & Me,* discusses his memoir about growing up in a devout Catholic home outside Detroit in the 60s and 70s. Signing. *7 p.m., Borders, 612 E. Liberty. Free. 668–7652.*

★"The Greatest Gift: A Return to Hope": Ann Arbor District Library/Arbor Hospice. John O'Shaughnessy discusses his memoir about how his family coped when his wife was diagnosed with terminal cancer. Signing. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★"The Evidence Matrix for the First Quarto of Shakespeare's Hamlet": Shaman Drum Bookshop. Independent scholar **Charles Kelly** discusses his 2nd study of the range of evidence that tends to challenge the accepted notion that the 1st Quarto of *Hamlet* is an unauthorized abridgment. A professional designer of graphic and digital tools to deal with complex data sets, Kelly also discusses the analytical tools he developed, which have won respect from Shakespeare scholars around the world, to study the relationships between variant Shakespeare texts. Signing. *7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

★Open Mike: VOLUME Poetry Project. Poets, writers, rappers, musicians, comics, and singers invited to perform. *7 p.m., The Neutral Zone, 310 E. Washington. Free. 214–9995.*

"Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat": Young People's Theater. *Nov. 6–8.* Lisa Craig directs young local actors in Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice's popular rock musical based on the biblical story of Joseph. The favorite son of the patriarch Jacob, Joseph was sold into slavery by his envious brothers but rose to become one of the Pharaoh's most powerful advisors. Though it never

Pioneer Theatre Guild presents *Miss Saigon* Nov. 8 & 9 and 14–16.

achieved the success of the team's earlier *Jesus Christ Superstar*, this is an appealing and good-natured musical with lots of catchy melodies and innocently irreverent lyrics. *7 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theater. $15 (seniors, kids, & students age 18 & under, $10) in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

★**"Mammals": U-M Basement Arts.** *Nov. 6–8.* U-M theater student Laura Przybysz directs Amelia Bullmore's award-winning darkly comic drama about a couple's relationship problems after the husband tells his wife he's in love with someone else. The husband's claim that "we're just mammals at the mercy of urges" is pitted against the idea that rational thought can overcome those urges. *7 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Studio 1, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. basement@umich.edu.*

Israeli Dancing: Jewish Community Center. *Every Thurs. except Nov. 27.* West Bloomfield dance instructors Cheryl Felt and Amnon Steiner lead a variety of Israeli dancing to recorded music. Easy dances and oldies the first hour followed by intermediate and requests. Beginners welcome. New dances taught each week. Wear sneakers or other flat, comfortable shoes. *7:30–10 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $6 (kids, $3). 971–0990.*

★**History of Books & Printing Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** All invited to join a discussion of David Damrosch's ***The Buried Book: The Loss and Rediscovery of the Great Epic of Gilgamesh.*** Refreshments. *7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669–0451.*

"An Evening with the Earl": TeaHaus. TeaHaus Earl Grey tea expert Andrew Wiertella gives the history of this Victorian beverage. Also, tea samples and tea-infused treats. *7:30 p.m., TeaHaus, 204 N. Fourth Ave. $16. Preregistration required. 622–0460.*

★**"The Looting of Iraq": Greenhills School Life of the Mind Lecture Series.** Talk by University of Chicago archaeology grad student Katharyn Hanson. *7:30 p.m., Greenhills School Campbell Center for the Performing Arts, 850 Greenhills Dr. (off Earhart). Free. 205–4091.*

"Rapunzel": Ann Arbor Junior Theater. *Nov. 6–9.* Kate Murphy directs young local actors in Karen Boettcher-Tate's adaptation of the classic tale about a long-haired damsel locked in a tower without doors. In this version, a science geek rescues Rapunzel from the tower. The cast features Willy Clark, Alina Frye, Molly Logue, El Berg, Natalie Schultz, Elijah Cox, Richard Graham, Graeme Taylor, and Rose Osburn. *7:30 p.m., WCC Liberal Arts Bldg. College Theater, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets $5 in advance and at the door. 971–2228.*

Ann Arbor Ski Club. *Nov. 6 & 20.* All age 21 & older invited to learn about the club's downhill and cross-country ski and snowboarding outings and other social activities. Followed by a **fashion show** (Nov. 6) and a **dance** (Nov. 20). Refreshments. *8–11 p.m., Cobblestone Farm barn, 2781 Packard. $5. 786–2237.*

★**Motor City Metro Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society.** *Every Thurs. except Nov. 27.* All male singers invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local barbershop harmony chorus. *8–10 p.m., ICC Education Center (behind Luther House at 1520 Hill). Free to visitors ($130 annual dues for those who join). Park on Lincoln or Baldwin. 474–1155.*

★**"Lifestyles of the Wishing-to-Be-Famous: Why Celebrities Rule America": U-M Center for Faith and Scholarship.** Talk by Mars Hill Audio founder Ken Myers. *8 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater. Free. 668–7421.*

"Wit": Redbud Productions. *Nov. 6–9.* Tim Grimes directs local actors in Margaret Edson's Pulitzer Prize–winning drama, at once funny and wrenching, that explores the value of one's wits in the face of death. A brilliant poetry scholar, hospitalized with terminal cancer, suddenly finds her viselike academic intelligence useless in her effort to get a grip on issues of mortality that she had always dismissed as extracurricular fripperies. The cast features Loretta Grimes, Michelle Lanzi, Dave Barker, and David Keren. *8 p.m., Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. Tickets $18 (students & seniors, $15) in advance and at the door. Group rates and discounts for preshow dining at Haab's Restaurant available. 663–7167.*

"Geoffrey & Jeffrey": Performance Network Professional Season. *Every Thurs.–Sun. (except Nov. 27), Nov. 6–Dec. 28.* David Wolber directs the world premiere of Royal Oak playwright Kim Carney's gleefully over-the-top comedy, based on the local couple of Charlie Sutherland and the late Jim Posante, about an older gay couple who discover that one of them has both a daughter and a granddaughter. Cast: Tom Whalen, Paul Hopper, Laurel Huffano, and Heidi Bennett. *8 p.m., Performance Network, 120 E. Huron. Preview tickets: whatever you can afford to pay (Nov. 6 & Nov. 15 matinee), $22 (Nov. 7, 9, & 13), and $30 (Nov. 8). Nov. 14 opening night tickets: $39 & $41 includes reception. After Nov. 14: $27 & $29 (Thurs.), $32 & $34 (Fri. & Sun.), $25 & $27 (Sat. matinee), $39 & $41 (Sat. eve.). $3 discounts available for seniors age 60 & over. Tickets available in advance at performancenetwork.org & by phone, and at the door. $10 student discounts available in advance, half-price student tickets at the door only. For reservations, call 663–0681; to charge by phone, call 663–0696.*

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

Jackie Kashian: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Nov. 6–8.* This veteran stand-up comic is a frequent performer on cable TV who has also had her own Comedy Central special. Her act blends storytelling with sharp commentary on a mix of momentous and trivial topics. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; the Friday and Saturday early shows are nonsmoking. *8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. $9 (Thurs.) & $12 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $11 (Thurs.) & $14 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

7 FRIDAY

★**21st Annual Jewish Book Festival: Jewish Community Center.** See 5 Wednesday. Today: U-M English professor Eileen Pollack reads from ***In the Mouth: Stories and Novellas*** (noon), her new collection of stories—including one selected for *Best American Short Stories 2008*—about the hidden connections and secret interior worlds that underlie every family unit. "These are funny, rueful, wise stories, steeped in absurdity, pain, possibility—the work of a writer who has lived," says fiction writer Gish Jen. 9 a.m.–6 p.m.

★**"God's Wisdom Sets Us Free": Church Women United World Community Day.** Women of all faiths invited to this annual ecumenical celebration focusing on the gift of diversity. Coffee and refreshments. *9:30 a.m., Calvary United Methodist Church, 1415 Miller Ave. Free. 665–8773.*

"Tiny Tot Time": Leslie Science and Nature Center. *Nov. 7 & 21.* A program of hikes, storytelling, songs, puppets, and crafts for kids ages 1–3 (accompanied by a caregiver). Snacks provided; dress for the outdoors. *9:30–11 a.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. $6. 997–1553.*

★**"Huron River Bike Trail Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Fri.* Slow-paced ride, 13 miles or more, along the Huron River from Ban-

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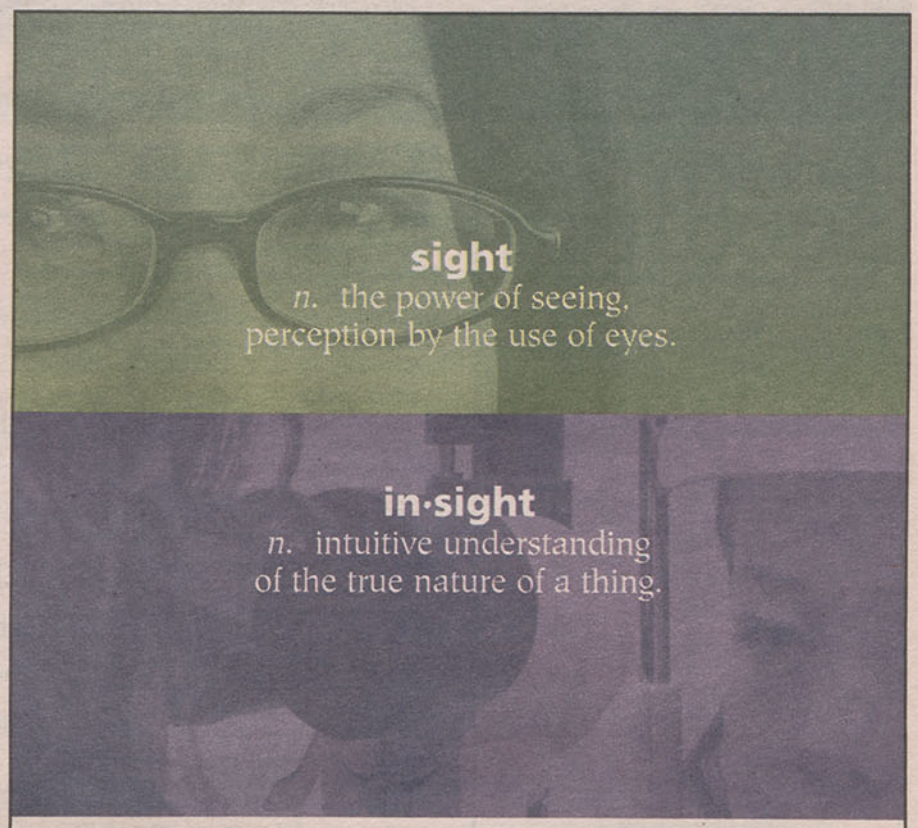

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7 FRIDAY *continued*

demer Park to Parker Mill, along with some alternate routes. *10 a.m., meet at Gallup Park Canoe Livery, 3000 Fuller Rd. (west side of Huron Pkwy.). Free. 663–4498.*

"Trampas: Trickster Tales from South of the Border": Wild Swan Theater. See 5 Wednesday. 10 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.

2nd Annual Riverside Holiday Art Show: Riverside Arts Center. *Nov. 7–9.* Display and sale of works by local artists. *Noon–9 p.m. (Nov. 7 & 8) & 1–5 p.m. (Nov. 9), Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. Free admission. 480–2787.*

★Noon Lecture Series: U-M Center for Southeast Asian Studies. *Nov. 7, 13, & 21.* Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. Today: University of California-Santa Cruz anthropology professor Anna Tsing on **"Profits of Diversity: The Performance of Ethnicity in a Wild Mushroom Commodity Chain."** Also this month: U-M history lecturer John Whitmore on **"Religions, Elites, and Literatis: The Formation of Vietnam in the Southeast Asian Context"** (Nov. 13) and University of the Philippines-Baguio history and psychology professor Maria Florendo on **"Space, Ethnicity, and Memory-Making among Diasporic Minority Peoples: The Igorots and Muslims in the Philippines"** (Nov. 21). *Noon–1:30 p.m., International Institute, SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–0352.*

★ESL Conversation Group: Ann Arbor District Library. *Every Fri. except Nov. 28.* All levels of English speakers invited for conversation. *1–2:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–4200.*

★Socrates Cafe: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Fri.* All seniors age 50 & older invited to join a discussion of ethics that draws on the Socratic method of questioning underlying assumptions. *1–1:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769–5911.*

Harvest Dinner: West Side United Methodist Church. Turkey with trimmin's that include cranberry relish, green beans, mashed potatoes, dressing, and coleslaw. Water, coffee, and milk. Proceeds benefit the church. *4:30–7 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh St. at Davis. $8 (kids 3–10, $5; kids age 2 & under, free). 429–0623.*

"Dine & Dash": Arbor Hospice Fund-Raiser. Dinner, a raffle, an auction, and an "art dash" in which attendees kick off their heels to race for an art piece to take home. Every dasher leaves with a work valued at $250 or more. *6 p.m., Barton Hills Country Club, 730 Country Club Rd. Tickets $350 per twosome (1 dasher and a guest) & $1,600 per table of 8 (4 dashers) in advance only. 794–5152.*

★AXIS Coffeehouse: Ann Arbor District Library. All kids in grades 6–12 invited to perform their own poetry or monologue, or a favorite by another writer, or just to sip a hot drink and listen. *6:30–8 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–4200.*

★First Friday Shabbat: Ann Arbor Jewish Cultural Society. JCS students lead a secular Shabbat celebration that includes candle lighting, singing, and other Jewish rituals. Bring a dish to pass for a vegetarian potluck. Children welcome. All invited. *6:30–9 p.m., Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. Reservations required. 975–9872.*

"Evening of Hope": Hope Clinic. An elegant gala evening featuring dinner catered by Back Alley Gourmet and live and silent auctions, followed by dancing to the **Jump Street Swing Band.** Proceeds benefit Hope Clinic. *6:30 p.m., Michigan Firehouse Museum, 110 W. Cross St., Ypsilanti. Tickets $100 in advance only. 485–5595.*

"16th Annual Save a Heart Celebration of Wine and Food": U-M Mott Children's Hospital. An elegant buffet feast of gourmet food and over 100 fine wines from local restaurants and food stores. Also, a silent auction and live music by the Saline Fiddlers and other ensembles TBA. A benefit for the Mott Congenital Heart Center. *6:30–9 p.m., Michigan League. $60 in advance and at the door. 936–9134.*

U-M Women's Volleyball vs. Northwestern. *7 p.m., Cliff Keen Varsity Arena, S. State at Hoover. $5 (youths age 17 & under, $3). 763–2159.*

U-M Ice Hockey vs. Alaska. *Nov. 7 & 8. 7 p.m., Yost Ice Arena, 1016 S. State at McKinley. $12–$17. 764–0247.*

6th Annual Benefit Auction: Carpenter Elementary School. Live and silent auctions, with food and entertainment by the jazz student ensemble. Proceeds benefit the school. No children; child care available for $5. *7–10 p.m., Carpenter Elementary School, 4230 Central Blvd. $5. 434–5573.*

Annual Auction: Southeastern Michigan Chapter of the American Truck Historical Society. Auction of a variety of automotive-related items. *7 p.m., Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free admission. 483–2799.*

34th Annual Auction: First United Methodist Cooperative Nursery. An auction of toys, themed birthday parties, catered dinners, crafts, stocking stuffers, Detroit Tigers tickets, and gift certificates to local restaurants, theaters, photographers, and more. Refreshments. Door prizes. Preview begins at 6:30 p.m. Preceded at 5 p.m. by a 40-year reunion dinner ($15) for FUMCN alumni and teachers and their family members. *7 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 120 S. State at Huron. Parking lot entrance on Washington. Free admission. Reservations requested for dinner. 662–4536.*

★"The Smoked Seafood Cookbook: Easy and Innovative Recipes from America's Best Smoke Fishery": Ann Arbor District Library. Durham's Tracklements and Smokery owner **T. R. Durham** discusses his new cookbook. Signing. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★"Cosplay Contest and Dance Dance Revolution Expo": Ann Arbor District Library. All 6th-graders through adults invited to dress up as their favorite anime, manga, or video game character and compete with other so-called cosplayers before a panel of judges. Prizes. Also, participants can try their skill in a version of the computer-guided movement game Dance Dance Revolution featuring Japanese pop. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327–4200.*

Ballroom Dance Party: Arts in Motion Dance Studio. Dancing to recorded waltzes, fox-trots, swing, and Latin dance music. Lessons for beginners. *7–9 p.m., Arts in Motion, 2841 Boardwalk. $5 per person. 222–6246.*

★Mark Webster Reading Series: U-M English Department. *Nov. 7 & 14.* Readings by U-M creative writing instructors and grad students. Today: prose by **Rodney Peppers** and poetry by **Sheera Talpaz.** *7 p.m., Michigan League Henderson Room. Free. 615–3710.*

"Blackwater Ballad": EMU Theater Department. *Nov. 7 & 8.* Award-winning local playwright Joseph Zettelmaier directs a staged reading of his and local singer-songwriter Brian Lillie's new musical, an adaptation of the Greek myth of Orpheus and Eurydice set in 1930s New Orleans. When a traveling musician captures the heart of the daughter of the town's hangman, their plans to wed in secret are ruined by betrayal and murder. *7 p.m., Sponberg Theater, Ford St., EMU campus, Ypsilanti. (Take Huron River Dr. east to Lowell St. Take Lowell to Ford St. and turn right onto Ford. The theater is on the left, with parking on the right.) Tickets $5 in advance and at the door. 487–1221.*

★"Mammals": U-M Basement Arts. See 6 Thursday. 7 & 11 p.m.

Dances of Universal Peace (Sufi Dancing). All invited to join in song, chant, and circle dances in joyous affirmation of the unity of the world's spiritual traditions. *7–9 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill. $5 requested donation. 332–7964.*

"Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat": Young People's Theater. See 6 Thursday. 7 p.m.

"Return to the Forbidden Planet": Huron High Players. *Nov. 7, 8, 14, & 15.* Bj Wallingford directs Huron students in Bob Carlton's campy rock musical, which blends elements of 1950s sci-fi B movies and Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. When Captain Tempest crash-lands his spaceship, whose crew includes the rollerblading robot Ariel, he finds that the landing

nonfiction

Michael Wex
Born to kvetch

Whether Yiddish is a dead language or reviving has been an ongoing source of debate ever since Hitler murdered most of its European practitioners, and its American speakers, of whom there were many even into the 1940s and 1950s, melted into the proverbial pot. There are now relatively few Jews in Europe, and fewer yet speak Yiddish. In the United States it is spoken primarily in ultraorthodox communities and by Florida retirees. The American Yiddish Theater, which in its heyday rivaled Broadway, would be Greek to most Jews today.

But there are signs of revival. Since the 1980s there has been a great deal of interest, on both sides of the Atlantic, in klezmer music and in Yiddish. Here and in Europe—strangely enough, especially in Germany and Poland—even non-Jews are learning the language, forming klezmer bands, and singing in *mamaloshen*.

Forty years ago there was Leo Rosten's popular book *The Joys of Yiddish*, but Rosten himself declared, "This is not a book about Yiddish." It was instead a delightful tome about Yiddish words and phrases that have infiltrated American English. My computer spell-checker has no problem with *kvetch, kibitz, schlep, schmaltz,* or *schmooze*. It's not okay by *tchotchke*, but that I can find in my dictionary. My spell-checker accepts *hoo-ha* and *mishmash*, but not *oy vey* or *putz*—and probably plenty of other words you may not know how to spell but know exactly how to use.

Now comes Michael Wex, scholar, stand-up comedian, and best-selling author of *Born to Kvetch* and *Just Say Nu*. Riding—and, one could argue, helping to foster—a resurgence of Yiddish that Rosten could hardly have imagined, Wex has brought the language and the culture that spawned it further into the spotlight for those who are interested in learning about Yiddish, for those who want to learn to speak it—and even for those who just want hilarious, highly entertaining reading.

Wex's strong suit, like Rosten's, is his terrific sense of humor, but he backs his comedy with an unparalleled understanding of all matters Yiddish. He has the chutzpah to invent a transliteration system for Yiddish that is at times at odds with the one created by the hallowed YIVO Institute for Jewish Research. It's emblematic of his nerve, and of his scholarship.

But he is funny, whether talking about relatives—"You can't live with them, you hardly ever get presents without them"—or describing an unappetizing dish that has all "the sex appeal of Don Knotts in a rainstorm."

In time-honored Yiddish tradition, he finds amusing ways to look at life's difficulties. "*Tsoores* (troubles) are to Yiddish what water is to fish, the difference being that no one has ever made a serious experiment to see if Jews could live without troubles."

Michael Wex will appear at the Jewish Community Center as part of the Jewish Book Festival on Monday, November 10.

—*Sandor Slomovits*

spot is actually an evil doctor's hideout. Shakespearean dialogue is rendered into such lines as "Two beeps or not two beeps" and "Shall I compare thee to a Barbie doll?" The oldies score includes "Great Balls of Fire," "Good Vibrations," and "Wipe Out." This is the first production in the school's new theater. The cast features Robert Axelrod, Micah Warschausky, Kirsten Crockett, Jeremy Williams, Sophie Painter, Noa Gutterman, Jodi Lau, Chloe Biermann, and Ashwaty Chennat. *7:30 p.m., Huron High School Theater, 2727 Fuller Rd. at Huron Pkwy. Tickets $12 (students & seniors, $10) in advance and at the door. 994–2096.*

"Rapunzel": Ann Arbor Junior Theater. See 6 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

Robin Lee Berry: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Local debut of this northern Michigan singer-songwriter with a rich, resonant, crystalline voice who writes in a variety of styles from folk and jazz to ballads and blues. She has a new CD, *Ahna, Kick a Hole in the Sky,* a collection that mixes originals with covers of Van Morrison's "Into the Mystic" and Neil Young's "Old Man" and a duet with Greg Brown on his "Never So Far." *8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. $12 (kids 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 662–4536, 665–8558.*

Joe Lovano's Us Five Quintet: University Musical Society. *See review, p. 53.* This jazz quintet is led by Lovano, a saxophonist who has been repeatedly named Artist of the Year in the *DownBeat* critics' and readers' polls. With bassist Esperanza Spalding, pianist James Weidman, and drummers Francisco Mela and Otis Brown. Award-winning jazz pianist **Jason Moran** opens with piano solos as well as some duets with Lovano. *8 p.m., Michigan Theater. $18–$44 in advance at the Michigan League and ums.org and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

"Hell's Bell": Dreamland Theater. *Nov. 7, 14, 21, & 29.* The Dreamland Puppet Troupe presents Misha Grey's bawdy musical puppet show that features witches, monsters, and adventure. For mature audiences. *8 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 26 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. $7. 657–2337.*

"On Golden Pond": Saline Area Players. *Nov. 7–9, 14, & 15.* Rick Dietering directs local actors in Ernest Thompson's drama about a crabby retired professor and his touchy grown daughter who struggle to come to terms with their frayed relationship on the occasion of his 80th birthday at the family cabin in Maine. *8 p.m., Liberty School Theater, 7265 N. Ann Arbor St., Saline. Tickets $12 (students & seniors age 65 & older, $10) at the door only. 944–4940.*

"Jack Goes Boating": Blackbird Theatre. See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

"Wit": Redbud Productions. See 6 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

"Geoffrey & Jeffrey": Performance Network Professional Season. See 6 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Jackie Kashian: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 6 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Friday Night Swing: Ann Arbor Swing Dance Association. *Every Fri.* Swing dancing to prerecorded music. No partner needed. Bring hard-soled shoes. Preceded at 8 p.m. by beginning lessons. *8:45–11:45 p.m., Dakota Bldg., 1785 W. Stadium. $5 (includes lessons; students, $3). 972–9141, 417–9857.*

8 SATURDAY

22nd Annual Saline Craft Show: Saline Community Education. This large juried craft show drew 10,000 people last year and features 250 local and area artists selling paintings, stoneware, rugs, birdhouses, holiday decorations, ceramics, calligraphy, clothing, and more. *8 a.m.–3:30 p.m., Saline Middle School, 7190 N. Maple Rd., Saline. $3 admission. 429–5922.*

Annual Pancake Breakfast: Ann Arbor Christian School. Flapjacks, sausage, ham, bagels, and OJ. Also, a bake sale. *8:30–10:30 a.m., Ann Arbor Christian School, 5500 Whitmore Lake Rd. Wheelchair-accessible. Donation. 741–4948.*

★Ecosystem Restoration Workday: U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum. *Nov. 8 & 15 (different locations).* All invited to help Matthaei staff members remove invasive plants and prepare new planting sites. Dress for outdoor work. Snacks and tools provided, or bring your own. *9 a.m.–noon, meet at the Arb Reader Center (Nov. 8), 1610 Washington Hts., & Matthaei (Nov. 15), 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. Registration requested. 647–8528.*

Artisan Fair: Christian Montessori School. Local artists sell pottery, jewelry, artwork, clothing, and more. Also, a **Family Festival** (11 a.m.–3 p.m.) features kids activities, games, and food. Partial proceeds benefit the school's scholarship fund. *9 a.m.–3*

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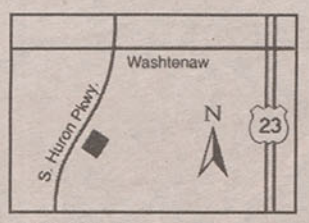

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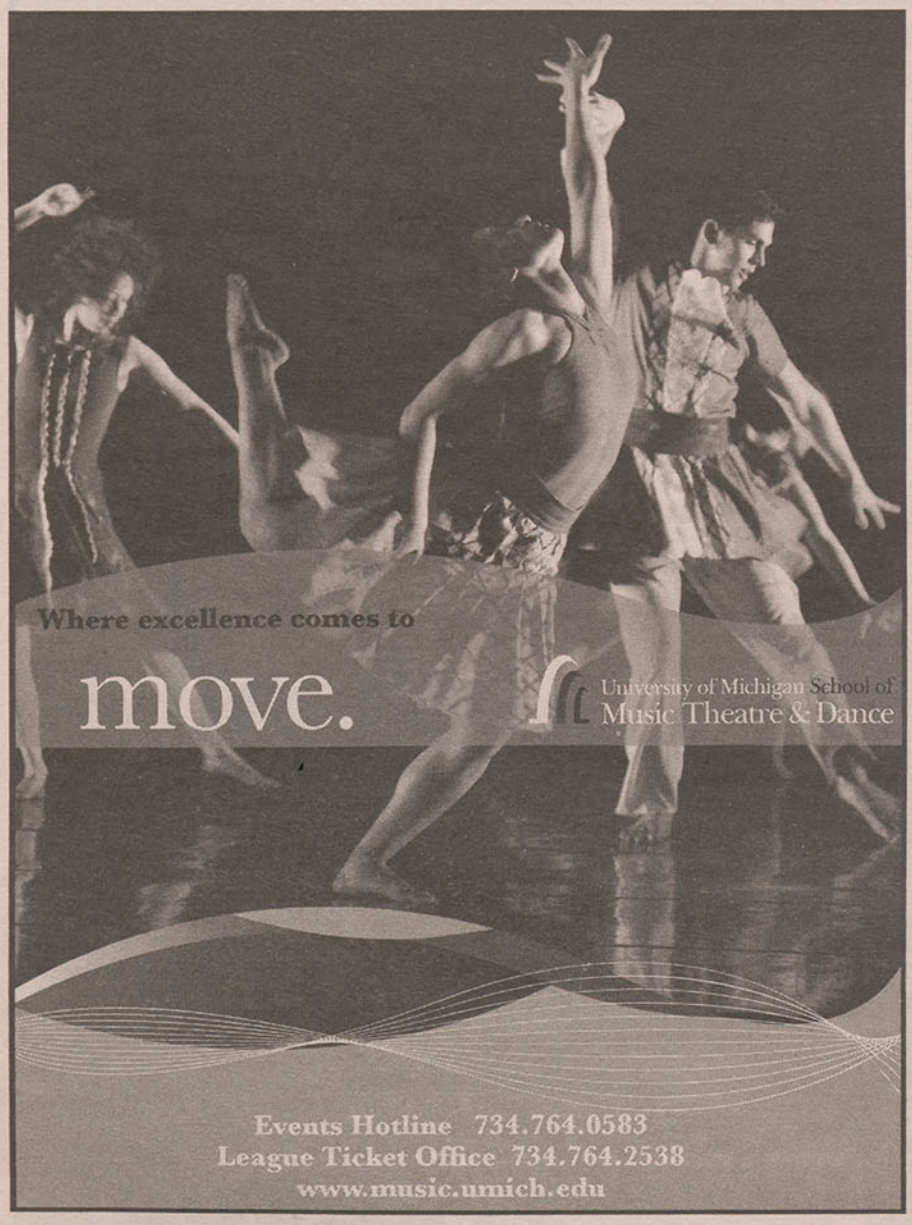

8 SATURDAY *continued*

p.m., Christian Montessori School, 5225 Jackson Rd. Free admission. 332–9600.

★Fall Chore Day: Neighborhood Senior Services. Volunteers needed to devote 2–4 hours to work in groups of 2–7 people to assist with assorted chores for frail and homebound elderly people in Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti, from checking smoke alarms and washing windows to putting up storm windows to raking and cleaning yards. The chores are offered free, but seniors who use the service are asked to help defray some of the costs if they can afford to. Bring rakes and work gloves; some equipment available. Severe weather date: November 22. *10 a.m.–2 p.m., St. Joseph's Hospital Senior Health Bldg., 5361 McAuley Dr. (off Huron River Dr.). Free. Preregistration required by Oct. 31. To volunteer or request this service, go to nssweb.org or call 712–7259.*

Silent Auction: Delta Kappa Gamma Society. Silent auction of a variety of themed gift baskets and donated items, services, and gift certificates from local businesses. Proceeds benefit scholarships for local students. *10 a.m., Westside United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh St. at Davis. Free admission. 668–1309.*

Mission Marketplace: First Presbyterian Church. Show and sale of a variety of handmade goods from Haiti, Israel, Peru, and the Philippines. Proceeds benefit the church's mission programs. *10 a.m.–2 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 1432 Washtenaw. Free admission. 662–4466.*

Annual Holiday Sale: Ann Arbor FiberArts Guild. Show and sale of hand-spun yarn, ornaments, toys, quilts, hats, jewelry, baskets, scarves, home decor, and clothing. *10 a.m.–4 p.m., Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free admission. 996–8601.*

★Materials Recovery Facility Monthly Open House: Ann Arbor Solid Waste Department. Guided tours of the city's recycling and trash disposal center. This month's special activities include a **winter bird-feeder workshop** (bring an empty plastic pop bottle or milk carton). Starter seed provided. *10 a.m.–noon, Materials Recovery Facility, 4120 Platt Rd. Free. 994–2807.*

★"Edible Landscaping": Project Grow. Talk by architect and designer **Fritz Haeg,** author of *Edible Estates: Attack on the Front Lawn*. Haeg also gives talks at an Avalon Housing benefit on Nov. 9 and at the U-M and the Ann Arbor District Library on Nov. 10 (see listings). *10 a.m.–noon, Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. Free; donation appreciated. Preregistration required. 996–3169.*

★Remote-Controlled Car Racing: Washtenaw RC Raceway. *Nov. 8 & 22.* One of the largest gatherings of RC racers in the country features off-road dirt-track racing for stock and modified model electric trucks and buggies. Spectators welcome. Food concessions. *10:30 a.m. (doors open at 8 a.m.)–midnight, Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free admission. $16 to race. (313) 565–2815.*

★"Arthur Party": Barnes & Noble. Marc Brown's beloved character is on hand for a reading of his *Arthur Writes a Story* and you help kids write a story of their own to be posted in the store's children's department. Parents invited to bring their cameras. *11 a.m., Barnes & Noble, 3245 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★"The Toledo War: The First Michigan-Ohio Rivalry of 1835": Motte & Bailey, Booksellers. Retired *Ann Arbor News* columnist **Don Faber** discusses his new book about land disputes between Michigan and Ohio before Michigan became a state. Signing and refreshments. *1–2 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669–0451.*

★"Track Detectives": Waterloo Recreation Area. WRA park interpreter Kathy Kavanagh leads a hike to look for and learn how to identify tracks and other signs of wildlife. *2 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center, Bush Rd. (west off Pierce Rd. from I-94 exit 157), Chelsea. Free. Space limited; preregistration required. $6 vehicle entry fee. 475–3170.*

★Kevin Collins: Ann Arbor District Library. This African Drum and Dance Troupe (Flint) director presents a family concert for preschoolers through adults featuring African music performed on a wide array of traditional percussion instruments. *2–3 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–4200.*

"Trampas: Trickster Tales from South of the Border": Wild Swan Theater. See 5 Wednesday. 2 p.m.

"Saturday Social Dance": Grand Traditions Vintage Dance Academy. All welcome to try a variety of vintage dances to recorded music. Casual; no partner necessary. *3:15 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). $5. 769–0041.*

★Sonja Richards: Barnes & Noble. This local writer reads 2 of her picture books illustrated by local artist Pauline Viall. ***My Maize and Blue Day*** is about a kid's trip to a U-M football game, and ***The Comet Kid*** is about an 8-year-old boy who wins a fishing competition at the northern Michigan lake where his family spends summer weekends. *4 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3245 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

St. Joseph Parish Fund-Raiser. Dinner and a silent auction of services, sports tickets, and other items. *6 p.m., St. Joseph Catholic Church, 3430 Dover, Dexter. Tickets $45 at the door. 426–8483.*

★U-M Men's Soccer vs. Penn State. *7 p.m., U-M Soccer Field, S. State at Hoover. Free. 763–2159.*

U-M Women's Volleyball vs. Wisconsin. *7 p.m., Cliff Keen Varsity Arena, S. State at Hoover. $5 (youths age 17 & under, $3). 763–2159.*

U-M Women's Basketball vs. Northwood. *7 p.m., Crisler Arena. $3 (youths under age 18, $1; U-M students with ID, free). 764–0247.*

★Ann Arbor Area Civil War Round Table. Talk by nationally renowned Civil War historian **Ed Bearss,** a former chief historian of the National Park Service who remains a popular historic battlefield tour guide. *7 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off Huron River Dr.). Free. 930–0617.*

"Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat": Young People's Theater. See 6 Thursday. 2 & 7 p.m.

"Blackwater Ballad": EMU Theater Department. See 7 Friday. 7 p.m.

★"Mammals": U-M Basement Arts. See 6 Thursday. 7 p.m.

"Rapunzel": Ann Arbor Junior Theater. See 6 Thursday. 1 & 7:30 p.m.

Carrie Newcomer: St. Clare's Episcopal Church. Acclaimed singer-songwriter and dynamic performer from northern Indiana whose songs explore the nourishments of the spirit in everyday life with a gritty realism and soft-spoken charm. A stylish singer with a dark, smoky alto, she uses a honky-tonk drawl and a bluesy purr to give her songs a seasoned toughness and a seductive sensuality that's tempered by her Quaker roots. Her recently released 11th CD, *The Geography of Light*, shows Appalachian and classical influences. Proceeds benefit St. Clare's Food Pantry and other local hunger outreach programs. *7:30 p.m., St. Clare's, 2309 Packard. $15; sponsor tickets $30; family ticket package $40. 662–2449.*

"Miss Saigon": Pioneer Theatre Guild. *Nov. 8 & 9 and 14–16.* U-M musical theater major Etai Ben-Shlomo directs Pioneer students in Claude-Michel Schonberg and Alain Boublil's adaptation of *Madame Butterfly*. Set during the Vietnam War, the pop opera tells the story of a romance between an American GI and an orphaned Vietnamese bar girl. *7:30 p.m., Pioneer High School Schreiber Auditorium, 601 W. Stadium at Main. $12 (students & seniors, $8) in advance at Morgan & York (1928 Packard) and at the door. $25 reserved seats available. 994–2191.*

Ballroom Dancing Night: Pittsfield Township Parks and Recreation Department. Ballroom dancing to recorded music from the last several decades. Preceded at 7 p.m. by an introduction to basic dance steps and ballroom dancing styles by Sue Bareis, Washtenaw County's best-known ballroom dance instructor. All invited, singles as well as couples. Refreshments. *8–10:30 p.m., Pittsfield Twp. Recreation Hall, S. State at Ellsworth. $5. 822–2120.*

2nd Saturday Contra Dance. Don Theyken calls contras to music by the Sharon Hollow String Band. No partner needed. Wear cool, casual clothes, and bring flat, smooth-soled shoes. Beginners welcome. *8 p.m., Webster Community Hall, 5665 Webster Church Rd. between Joy and North Territorial, Dexter. $8. 996–8359.*

"Acappellooza": U-M Dicks and Janes. This a cappella showcase features performances by 2 U-M a cappella groups, the **Dicks and Janes** and **Amazin' Blue.** Also, guest performances by **Tangled Up in Blue** from the University of Wisconsin, the MSU **Accafellas,** and a **University of Toronto a cappella group.** *8 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. $10 (students, $5) in advance at dicksandjanes.com or at the door. 763–1107.*

Synchronicity: Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth Cafe 704 Coffeehouse. An eclectic mix of musical styles by the local husband-and-wife duo of vocalist Shekinah Errington and guitarist Gary Logan. Opening act is **Bill O'Connor,** a veteran local singer-songwriter and guitarist. *8–10 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. $10 at the door only. 665–0409.*

Emanuel Ax and Yefim Bronfman: University Musical Society. These 2 world-renowned virtuoso pianists perform Brahms's *Variations on a Theme by Haydn*, Bolcom's *Recuerdos*, Mozart's Sonata for Two Pianos in D Major, and Rachmaninoff's *Symphonic Dances*. A *Chicago Tribune* reviewer called their 2002 recording of Rachmaninoff's piano duos "a marvel of digital dexterity, warmly romantic sentiment, and jaw-dropping bravura." *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. $10–$56 in advance at the Michigan League*

The Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir

Irresistible force and immovable object

Shortly after gaining independence from Russia in 1991, Estonia ditched socialism and embraced capitalism. The result was a balanced budget, no public debt, and one of the world's fastest-growing economies. Perhaps not uncoincidentally, the little Baltic country also has the highest rate of irreligiosity in the world, with 75 percent of the population professing no religious faith.

Given that, what can explain the fact that far and away the most successful composer of sacred choral music in the world today is the Estonian Arvo Pärt?

Two things: First, whatever other Estonians believe, Pärt is a devout member of the Eastern Orthodox Church, and his faith suffuses his music. Second, Pärt discovered a way to compose that combines medieval modality with Romantic tonality and modern atonality. The combination creates a palpable sense of the inevitable entwined with the eternal, of an irresistible force fusing with an immovable object. Together, Pärt's religious faith and compositional method have fashioned a body of sacred choral music that now figures prominently in the repertoire of choirs around the world.

The choir most closely connected with Pärt's music is, of course, the Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir. It was in large part the choir's recordings of his sacred choral works for the German ECM label that helped establish Pärt's international reputation, just as it was in large part its appearances here in Ann Arbor in 1995 and 1997 that helped establish Pärt's local reputation.

For the choir's return to St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church on Thursday, November 13, its program is split between works by Pärt and works by his younger countryman Erkki-Sven Tüür. Led by Tõnu Kaljuste and accompanied by the Tallinn Chamber Orchestra, the Estonian choir will perform Tüür's Passion and Requiem in the first half and Pärt's *Orient Occident* for strings and Te Deum in the second half.

Kaljuste founded the choir in 1981 and served as its leader for twenty years; he still directs it frequently both on tour and at home. Known for its flawless intonation, faultless pronunciation, poised balances, cool sonorities, and smooth, round tone, the choir has had eight of its recordings nominated for Grammy awards—an amazing achievement for a group specializing in contemporary sacred music. But then, the Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir is no ordinary group specializing in contemporary sacred music: it's Estonian.

—James Leonard

and ums.org and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.

★"Perfectly Puccini": Arbor Opera Theater. Members of this polished local opera company perform a musical tribute to opera legend Giacomo Puccini. Followed by a reception. *8 p.m., First Congregational Church, 608 E. William at S. State. Free, but donations accepted. 332–9063.*

"Kamikaze": U-M Residential College Players. A group of RC students presents an original play they have had 24 hours to write, stage, and rehearse. *8 p.m., RC Auditorium East Quad, 701 East University. $5 (students, $3). 763–0176.*

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Jack Goes Boating": Blackbird Theatre. See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

"Wit": Redbud Productions. See 6 Thursday. 2 & 8 p.m.

"On Golden Pond": Saline Area Players. See 7 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Geoffrey & Jeffrey": Performance Network Professional Season. See 6 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Jackie Kashian: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 6 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

2nd Saturday Swing Dance: Grand Traditions Vintage Dance Academy. Dancing to recorded jump blues, swing, and big-band music. All welcome; no partner necessary. Preceded at 7:30 p.m. by lessons ($5). *8:30–11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). $5 (dance with lesson, $7). 213–0537.*

9 SUNDAY

Ann Arbor Turkey Trot: Tortoise and Hare. 10-km run (10 a.m.) and 5-km run and walk (9 a.m.), and the "Iron Turkey Classic" for those who want to compete in both runs. Also, a kids' dash (8:30 a.m.). Trophies & medals. Postrace refreshments and music by a DJ. *8:30 a.m., Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. $25 ("Iron Turkey," $40; kids, $10) by Nov. 7, $35 ("Iron Turkey," $50; kids, $10) after Nov. 10. Entry forms available at tortoiseandhare.com. $4 vehicle entrance fee. 623–9640.*

Chili Open: Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation. Both players hit every shot from the spot of the best ball of their twosome. Open to all golfers; no handicaps. *9 a.m., Leslie Park Golf Course, 2120 Traver Rd. $40 per person (includes greens fee, continental breakfast, chili & chili dog lunch, & prizes). Preregistration required. 994–1163.*

★"Wasem Cider Mill Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Fast/moderate-paced 55-mile and slow-paced 34-mile rides to this nearby cider mill for cider and doughnuts. *9 a.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 434–3097 (55-mile ride), 996–4985 (34-mile ride).*

★21st Annual Jewish Book Festival: Jewish Community Center. See 5 Wednesday. Today: Anne-Marie Asner reads from her new picture book ***Klutzy Boy*** (11 a.m.). 9 a.m.–9 p.m.

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avant-garde music

Eugene Chadbourne

Down-to-earth transcendence

Accounts of Eugene Chadbourne's music usually state in one way or another that it's impossible to predict what will happen during his shows. While this is indeed noteworthy in a calculating world, it's not sufficient to explain what has kept people coming to those shows for well over thirty years now and made Chadbourne into something of an avant-garde cult figure. So, at the risk of taking all the fun out of this thing, let's try to analyze it.

It's true that an unusually wide swath of the musical universe seems to be within Chadbourne's grasp. Playing guitar, and sometimes a banjo or other stringed instrument, he can rock out or participate in an extended avant-jazz improvisation, and he can sing, in a plain voice you either love or can't stand, straight country, rockabilly, psychobilly, blues, and ska-punk. He's performed—after a fashion—Bach's Sonata and Partita no. 1 for solo violin on a five-string banjo. He writes protest folk, grotesque satires, freeform rock and roll . . . The list goes on and on. He can cover almost anything and make it into something new; one example in fairly common circulation is a version of the rockabilly classic "Train Kept a-Rollin'," done with the Dutch jazz drummer Han Bennink and perched right between rockabilly and total jazz assault. Chadbourne has a large assortment of collaborators; as utterly idiosyncratic as his music may be, he seems to be able to sit in with musicians of many kinds. If he has a personal trademark, it's a pair of homemade instruments, an electric lawn rake and an electric birdcage, that he sometimes brings to shows.

But what holds all this together? Chadbourne is no virtuoso. His efforts are all lo-fi, low-tech, and pretty much underground primitive. But there's genius in what he does. Progressive musicians in the third quarter of the twentieth century, when Chadbourne came of age, pursued several paths toward transcendence, paths that went by the names of free jazz, experimental rock, folk. Somehow, instead of cycling through these as so many other musicians did, Chadbourne just threw them into his personal pool of experiences and continued to draw on them all and mix them together. A later influence on Chadbourne, and a heavy collaborator, was the unclassifiable New York jazz eclectic John Zorn, who showed the way toward a music in which the strands of the musical universe itself could be lines in an ongoing project of free improvisation. By grounding that idea in the common coin of country music and in the personal conviction of left-wing politics, Chadbourne brought it back down to earth.

It's all something to think about, and to enjoy, for humor, sometimes obscene, is a significant part of the deal, and the atmosphere at a live Chadbourne concert is more rock than jazz. The best guess you can make about what will happen during Chadbourne's solo show at Kerrytown Concert House on Thursday, November 13, is that there will be a hugely diverse of group of musical numbers, probably falling under a general theme that may be political. Expect for sure that this free show will be hard to get into; WCBN, the U-M's intrepid student-community freeform radio station, has hosted free programs of avant-garde music in much larger venues, like the U-M Museum of Art, and there hasn't been a vacant seat in the house.

—James M. Manheim

9 SUNDAY *continued*

★Barbara Brodsky: Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. This local interfaith minister, founder of the Deep Spring Center for Meditation and Spiritual Inquiry, channels Aaron, a "being of light." *10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. Free. 665–0409.*

Idle Equipment and Furniture Sale: Ann Arbor District Library. Sale of surplus AADL equipment, including chairs, tables, file cabinets, cubicle walls and desks, steel bookshelves, computer equipment, and more. *Noon–6 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free admission. 327–4560.*

★"Chesstastic!": Ann Arbor District Library. All kids and adults invited to play chess. Sets provided. *1–4 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–8301.*

★"Displaced Spirit: An Armenian Cultural Journey": Ann Arbor Art Center. All families with kids ages 5–17 invited to taste Armenian food, make art projects, listen to traditional music, learn about Armenian culture, and more. *1–5 p.m., Ann Arbor Art Center, 117 W. Liberty. Free. 483–1897.*

"How Can Religion Promote Peacemaking in the Middle East?": Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice. A series of talks that attempt to answer the question of how Jews, Christians, and Muslims can make religion part of the solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The speakers include Christian Palestinian archbishop of Galilee **Elias Chacour,** Hartford Seminary Islamic studies professor **Ingrid Mattson,** and George Mason University world religions professor **Marc Gopin.** Today's talks are part of a 3-day conference (see morikawaconference.org for a complete schedule). *1:30–9 p.m., Rackham 4th floor. $20 (entire conference, $30; students, $15). Preregistration required. 663–9376.*

★"Growing Paphiopedilums under Lights": Ann Arbor Orchid Society. Michigan orchid grower Ed Hoyas discusses the attractive and diverse Asian Lady's Slipper orchid. Also, an orchid show-and-tell, orchid sales, a silent auction, raffles, and a chance to grill experts on problem plants. *1:45 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens auditorium, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 663–0756.*

★Washtenaw Ski Touring Club. All invited to join club members for a hike. Followed at 4 p.m. by a potluck. *2 p.m., Independence Lake County Park, 3200 Jennings (north off North Territorial), Webster Twp. Free. $5 vehicle entry fee. 662–SKIS.*

★"How to Select New Roses": Huron Valley Rose Society. All invited to join a group discussion. *2 p.m. U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 277–0112.*

16th Annual Benefit: Avalon Housing. The program is highlighted by a talk by the renowned architect **Fritz Haeg** (see 8 Saturday). Hors d'oeuvres. Avalon is a local nonprofit agency that currently owns and manages over 173 units of affordable housing for low-income individuals and families in 15 sites scattered around town. *2–4 p.m., The Earle, 121 W. Washington. Tickets $50 in advance and at the door. 663–5858, ext. 38.*

★Friends of Four-Hand Piano. Pianists of all abilities invited to bring their music for a casual afternoon of performing duets. An opportunity to meet other pianists and find partners for 4-hand and 2-piano music. Listeners welcome. *2 p.m., location TBA. Free. 971–6261, 485–5007.*

★Shape Note Singing: The Ark/Ann Arbor Sacred Harp. All invited to join an afternoon of shape note, or sacred harp, singing, a form of communal hymn singing that has its roots in colonial America. Songbooks available, but singers are encouraged to bring their own. *2–5 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Free, but donations accepted for music scholarships. 747–9644, 761–1451.*

★"The Infinite Landscape: Master Photographers from the UMMA Collection": U-M Museum of Art Off/Site. *Nov. 9, 13, 20, & 23.* Docent-led tours of the current UMMA exhibit. *Note:* On Nov. 14 & 15, docents give tours (9 a.m.–noon) in conjunction with an open house at the newly renovated U-M Museum of Art (525 S. State). *2 p.m. (Sun.) & 7 p.m. (Thurs.), UMMA Off/Site, 1301 South University. Free. 763–UMMA.*

★"The Life and Songs of Stephen Foster." Ann Arborite George Valenta appears as Morrison Foster, the beloved American songwriter Stephen Foster's last surviving sibling, to clear up myths about his brother and lead a sing-along of some of his most popular songs, like "Oh! Susanna" and "Jeanie with the Light Brown Hair." Accompanist is pianist Erica Arnold. Preceded by Foster tunes played in music hall style by the local duo of banjoist Erik Hildinger and guitarist Elizabeth Hildinger. *2 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 677–5090.*

"Wit": Redbud Productions. See 6 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Miss Saigon": Pioneer Theatre Guild. See 8 Saturday. 2 p.m.

"Jack Goes Boating": Blackbird Theatre. See 1 Saturday. 2 p.m.

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 2 p.m.

"On Golden Pond": Saline Area Players. See 7 Friday. 2 p.m.

"Geoffrey & Jeffrey": Performance Network Professional Season. See 6 Thursday. 2 p.m.

★"Eugene Onegin: A Russian Masterpiece": Ann Arbor District Library. Ann Arbor District Library music specialist Richard LeSueur discusses (with musical examples) the Tchaikovsky opera, which U-M opera students perform later this month (see 13 Thursday listing). *3–4:30 p.m., AADL meeting room (4th floor), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★Campus Band: U-M School of Music. John Pasquale conducts this ensemble of nonmusic majors in works from the Classical era through the 20th century. *3 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0594.*

★Fall Concert: Dexter Community Band. Bill Gourley directs this 85-member volunteer ensemble in Bizet's *A Common Fantasy,* Ron Nelson's *Sonoran Desert Holiday,* Grainger's "A Children's March," Yo Goto's arrangement of Luigi Denza's "Finiculi Finicula," Sousa's "King Cotton," Henry Fillmore's "Trombone King," and a Glenn Miller medley, "In a Miller Mood." *3 p.m., Dexter Center for the Performing Arts, Dexter High School, 2200 N. Parker at Shield, Dexter. Free. 426–2734.*

★Faculty Showcase: EMU Music Department. Performances by EMU music-faculty ensembles TBA. *3 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

★Keary Campbell Memorial Organ Recital: American Guild of Organists. AGO members play reflective organ music in honor of U-M School of Dentistry photographer Campbell. Also, a display of Campbell's photos. *4 p.m., First Congregational Church. Free. 994–9301.*

"The Orchestra Is Here to Play": Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra. The orchestra is joined by the popular local acoustic duo **Gemini,** young local violinist **Emily Slomovits,** and the **Ann Arbor Youth Chorale** in Gemini's *The Orchestra Is Here to Play,* a piece composed to introduce kids to orchestra instruments. The program also includes songs about growing up, and sing-alongs. Also, 10-year-old twins **Ariel & Zoey** sing Gary Adler's "In Your Heart." Preceded at 2:30 p.m. in the lobby by a "string instrument petting zoo," crafts, and other kids activities. *4 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $12 (kids, $5) in advance at the AASO office (200 E. Huron, suite 470), a2so.com, and at the door. 994–4801.*

Peter Soave: Great Lakes Performing Artists Associates (Kerrytown Concert House). This world renowned accordion and bandoneon virtuoso, a longtime favorite with KCH audiences, is joined by Michigan marimbist **David Hall** for a program of tango music. Soave and Hall also play solo pieces. *4 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $10, $15, & $25 (students, $5). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

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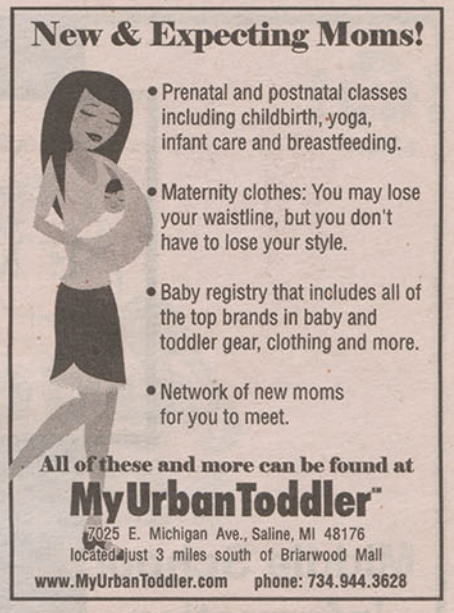
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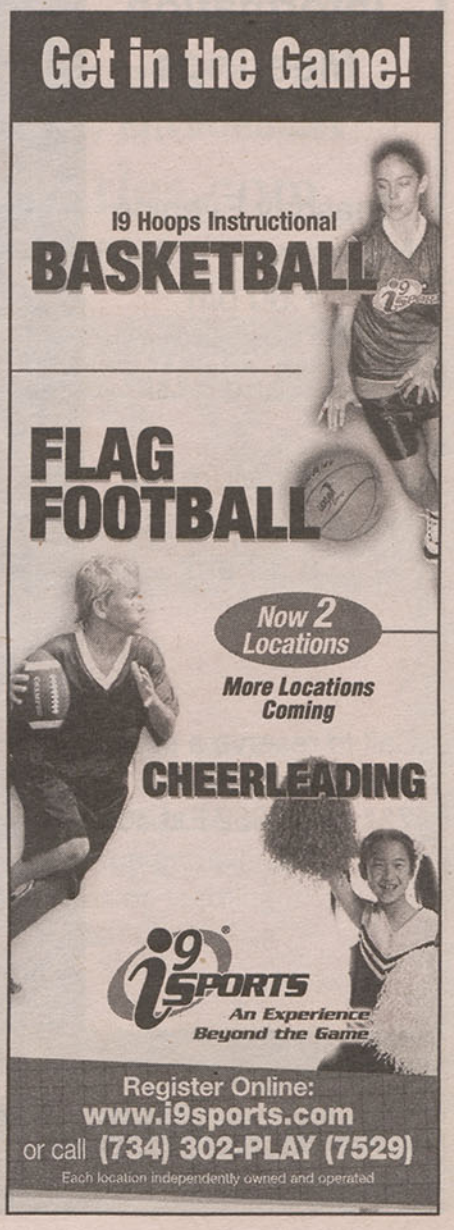

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★**"Booked for Murder" Mystery Book Club: Nicola's Books.** All invited to discuss 2 novels about politics. Robert Harris's ***The Ghost*** is a darkly comic story of a ghostwriter who discovers some dangerous secrets as he works on a former British prime minister's memoir. Ridley Pearson's ***Killer Weekend*** is about a sheriff's investigation of an assassination threat to a state attorney general on the weekend she announces she's running for president. *4:30 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 769–2149.*

"Eckhart Tolle": Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. *Nov. 9 & 23.* Local social worker Lorraine Coburn and therapist Susan Major lead a discussion of the teachings of the Canadian spiritual writer whose work has been popularized on *Oprah. 6–8 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. $10 suggested donation. 646–6585, 996–0702.*

★**"Theology on Tap": St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Outreach Committee.** All invited to join an informal discussion of social, theological, and political issues. Tonight: a screening of ***Unnatural Causes: Is Inequality Making Us Sick?,*** a PBS documentary exploring the ways racism and economic disadvantage affect health. Followed by a group discussion. Followed by discussion. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by socializing. *7 p.m., Arbor Brewing, 116 E. Washington. Free. 663–0518.*

Aziz Ansari: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Ann Arbor debut of this young actor-comedian, best known as one of the stars of the MTV sketch comedy show *Human Giant,* who specializes in observational humor about the frustrations of daily life and the absurdities of pop culture. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. $20 reserved seating in advance & general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

10 MONDAY

★**"4th Annual Aging in Place Conference": Housing Bureau for Seniors.** *Nov. 10–13 (different programs & locations).* A weeklong conference on addressing the needs of seniors who want to reside in their homes as long as possible. Today: panels on **"How to Become a Savvy Health Care Consumer"** (9:30–11 a.m.) and **"How to Prepare for the Expected and the Unexpected in Later Life"** (2–4 p.m.). Also, an **"Aging in Place Expo"** (11 a.m.–3 p.m.) featuring informational displays by area senior service providers. *9 a.m.–4 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. Preregistration required. 998–9336.*

★**21st Annual Jewish Book Festival: Jewish Community Center.** See 5 Wednesday. Today: Canadian novelist **Michael Wex** *(see review, p. 58),* author of the best-seller *Born to Kvetch,* discusses his hilarious yet practical guide ***Just Say Nu: Yiddish for Every Occasion (When English Just Won't Do)*** (7:30 p.m.). 9 a.m.–9:30 p.m.

★**Movie Matinee: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** *Nov. 10 & 24.* Screening of a film TBA. Lunch available ($2.50). *12:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769–5911.*

★**"Costa Rice and CAFTA: Policy, Politics, and Strategy for a New Era in Costa Rican Trade": U-M Ford School of Public Policy.** Talk by former Costa Rica foreign trade minister **Alberto Trejos.** *4–5:30 p.m., 1120 Weill Hall, 735 S. State at Hill. Free. 615–3893.*

★**Fritz Haeg: U-M School of Natural Resources/ Avalon Housing.** This renowned architect (see 8 Sat.) discusses his innovative "place-responsive" landscape design. *4 p.m., 1040 Dana, 440 Church. Free. Donations to Avalon Housing accepted. 663–5858.*

★**"Experiments on Animals and Humans: Greek and Roman Perspectives": U-M Classics Department Gerald F. Else Lecture in the Humanities.** Lecture by Institute for Advanced Study (Princeton, New Jersey) classics and history of science professor **Heinrich von Staden.** *4 p.m., Michigan League Vandenberg Room. Free. 647–8003.*

★**Rainbow Book Club.** All invited to discuss ***Fellow Travelers,*** Thomas Mallon's novel, set in McCarthy-era Washington, about the closeted relationship between a bureaucrat and a young college graduate. *4:30–6 p.m., WRAP office, 325 Braun Ct. Free. 763–4168.*

"Pig in the Poke": Salvation Army Fund-Raiser. Thanksgiving dinner and a live auction. Bring a new or used item to be auctioned. *6 p.m., Salvation Army, 100 Arbana. Free admission. Reservations required. 668–8353.*

★**Ann Arbor FiberArts Guild.** Informal show-and-tell of club members' summer fiber art projects. Nonmembers welcome. Refreshments. *6:30 p.m. Gretchen's House Learning Center, 2340 Oak Valley Dr. Free. 665–0703.*

★**"Super Skills: Using the Library for Homework": Ann Arbor District Library.** All kids in grades K–5 (accompanied by a caregiver) invited to a hands-on introduction to AADL print and online resources for doing homework. *7–8 p.m., AADL youth department, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Edible Estates: Attack on the Front Lawn": Ann Arbor District Library/Avalon Housing.** Architect **Fritz Haeg** (see 8 Saturday) discusses his book about his efforts to encourage kitchen gardens. Signings. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. Donations to Avalon Housing accepted. 327–4560, 663–5858.*

★**"La Escuela": Ann Arbor District Library.** Screening of Hannah Weyer's award-winning 2002 documentary about the lives of high school students from the families of migrant farm workers. In conjunction with *The Migrant Project: Contemporary California Farm Workers,* the current AADL exhibit of photographs by Rick Nahmias. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL meeting room (4th floor), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★**"Michigan: Our Land, Our Water, Our Heritage": Shaman Drum Bookshop.** Local fiction writers **Elizabeth Kostova** and **Janet Kauffman** and local poets **Keith Taylor** and **Alison Swan** read from their contributions to this collection of essays by Michigan writers edited by U-M English professor John Knott, who hosts tonight's readings. Signing. *7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

★**"Yoga: Move Your Body and Your Mind: Prevent Stress and Achieve Better Mental Health": National Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Washtenaw County.** Talk by local social worker Martha Latsch, a registered yoga teacher. *7:30–9:30 p.m., St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 2309 Packard. Free. 994–6611.*

★**"The Welsh Girl": Concordia University.** U-M English professor **Peter Ho Davies,** an award-winning fiction writer of mixed Welsh-Chinese heritage, reads from his debut novel, an ambitious, moving tale about an unexpected and perilous romance that develops between a German prisoner in a British POW camp in remote Wales and a secretive local girl. Signing. *7:30 p.m., Concordia University Riverside Conference Room, 4090 Geddes at Earhart. Free. 995–7300.*

Joan Baez: The Ark. Now in her 60s, this pioneering folk diva still possesses the gifts that made her famous: the lofty, crystalline yet deep-bodied, hauntingly elegiac voice; an ability to inhabit the emotional center of whatever song she is singing; and an aptitude for blending humanistic propaganda and entertainment in a single package. Her new Steve Earle-produced CD *Day after Tomorrow* features songs by Earle, Eliza Gilkyson, Patty Griffin, Elvis Costello, Tom Waits, Diana Jones, and Thea Gilmore. *7:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $26–$50 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

★**University Philharmonia Orchestra: U-M School of Music.** Nan Washburn conducts this U-M music-student ensemble in the Overture to Schubert's *Rosamunde,* Ravel's *Mother Goose Suite,* Dvorak's *In Nature's Realm,* and Moncayo's *Huapango. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0594.*

11 TUESDAY

★**Stewardship Network Stewards' Circle.** All invited to join a group discussion on **winter restoration.** *7:30–8:30 a.m., Bruegger's Bagels, 709 North University. Free. 996–3190.*

★**21st Annual Jewish Book Festival: Jewish Community Center.** See 5 Wednesday. Today: NBC Tel Aviv bureau chief Martin Fletcher discusses his memoir ***Breaking News*** (noon), and Elinor Burkett discusses ***Golda*** (7:30 p.m.), her biography of Golda Meir. 9 a.m.–9:30 p.m.

★**Veterans Day Celebration & Flag Dedication: Concordia University.** A local Boy Scout troop retires the current flag at Concordia University, and a flag flown over Baghdad by the 322nd Civil Affairs Brigade is raised. *10 a.m., Concordia University, 4090 Geddes. Free. Preregistration required. 995–7322.*

★**Good Thyme Garden Club.** Nature's Way Landscape Design representative Tom Zilke discusses residential landscape design. *10 a.m., Arbor Hospice, 2366 Oak Valley Dr. Free. 663–8577.*

★**"3rd Annual Aging in Place Conference": Housing Bureau for Seniors.** See 10 Monday. Today: presentations by local aging-in-place specialists on **"Build or Remodel Your Home for the Future"** (10 a.m.–noon, Home Builders Association, 179 Little Lake Dr., off Parkland Plaza from eastbound Jackson between Wagner & Zeeb), a panel on **"How to Successfully Detect and Avoid Deadly Estate Planning Mistakes"** (2–4 p.m., Hillside Terrace Retirement Community, 1939 Jackson), and and a talk on **"Distressing Behaviors in Dementia: Why They Occur, How to Prevent Them, and How to Respond to Them"** (6–8 p.m., Brecon Village Retirement Community auditorium, 200 Brecon Dr., Saline). 10 a.m.–8 p.m.

"What Happened Last Tuesday?": U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Distinguished Lecture Series. Lecture by U-M communications and political science professor **Michael Traugott.** Third in a series of 9 monthly lectures. *10:30–11:30 a.m., Best Western Executive Conference Center, 2900 Jackson Rd. $50 (members, $35) for the 9-lecture series. Memberships are $15 a year. Preregistration required. 998–9351.*

2K Sports Classic for Coaches Against Cancer: U-M Men's Basketball. *Nov. 11 & 12.* Today: **Northeastern vs. Indiana-Purdue** (4 p.m.) and **U-M vs. Michigan Tech** (7 p.m.). *Nov. 12:* consolation (5 p.m.) and championship (8 p.m.) games. The regional tournament winner competes in the national finals in New York on Nov. 20 & 21. *4 & 7 p.m., Crisler Arena. $15 & $22. 764–0247.*

"Wine & Cheese Tasting": Mothers and More. A Morgan & York representative gives wine tastings. Also, samples of cheese appropriate for pregnant women. *7–9 p.m., location TBA. $15. 527–6880.*

"Tea Tasting": Zingerman's Delicatessen. *Nov. 11 & 25.* Zingerman's tea expert Jess Piskor shows how to brew and offers taste samples of several fine teas. *7–8 p.m., Zingerman's Next Door (upstairs), 422 Detroit St. $10 in advance, $15 (if available) at the door. 663–3400.*

★**"The Nuts and Bolts of Positive Parenting": U-M Center for the Child and the Family.** Talk by U-M psychologist Jamie Plunkett. *7–8:30 p.m., 1465 East Hall, 530 Church. Free. Preregistration required. 764–9466.*

★**Health Sessions: Washtenaw Whole Foods Market.** *Nov. 11, 12, & 20.* Talks by local health practitioners. Today: nutritionist Judy Stone on **"Female Hormones: From Hell to Harmony."** Also this month: acupuncturist Gary Merel on **"Balancing Your Hormones: Balancing Your Life"** (Nov. 12) and chiropractor Shannon Roznay on **"Weight Loss"** (Nov. 20). *7 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyles Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Preregistration requested. 975–4500.*

★**"From Philadelphia to the Front": U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies.** Screening of Judy Gelles and Marianne Bernstein's 2005 documentary about Jewish American WW II vets. Followed by a discussion with the directors. *7 p.m., Frankel Center, 202 S. Thayer. Free. 763–9047.*

★**"Triple Jeopardy: Racism, Classism, and Violence Against Women": U-M Housing Tamara Williams Memorial Lecture.** Talk by University of Illinois-Chicago gender and women's studies professor Beth Richie. *7 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater. Free. 763–4104.*

★**Fantasy and Science Fiction/Theory Reading Group: U-M English Department.** All age 21 & older invited to discuss ***Bridge of Birds: A Novel of an Ancient China That Never Was,*** Barry Hughart's fantasy about a scholar and his sidekick who set out to find the cure for a mysterious illness. *7–9 p.m., 3154 Angell Hall. Free. 764–2553.*

★**"Josef Albers: To Open Eyes: The Bauhaus, Black Mountain College, and Yale": Shaman Drum Bookshop.** Washtenaw Community College art professor emeritus Fred Horowitz, a student of Albers at Yale in the 50s, discusses his study, cowritten with Josef and Anni Albers Foundation chief curator Brenda Danilowitz, of the legendary German artist's influence on generations of artists, architects, and designers, both through his work and as an educator. Signing. *7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

★**Spanish Readers Group: Nicola's Books.** All invited to join a discussion, in Spanish, of ***La Muerte Lenta de Luciana B.,*** Guillermo Martinez's metaphysical detective story about a woman who suspects her employer, a famous author, of plotting murders. *7:30 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**Sierra Club Book Club: Nicola's Books.** All invited to discuss ***Blessed Unrest: How the Largest Social Movement in History Is Restoring Grace, Justice, and Beauty to the World,*** Paul Hawken's history of the relationships between environmental and social justice movements. *7:30 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 971–1157.*

★**"Inner Wisdom for Navigating Financial Storms and Hurricanes of Change": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** Talk by local psychotherapist Peter Michaelson. *7:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★**Ann Arbor Camera Club.** *Nov. 11 & 18.* Tonight: **"Spectacle and the Invented American Landscape,"** a slide-illustrated talk by College for Creative Studies (Detroit) photography professor Carlos Diaz. Also this month: club members show recent slides and prints on "Simplicity" and other topics. *7:30 p.m.,*

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Shmuel Ashkenasi *violin*
Kelli O'Connor *clarinet*
Zhihua Tang *piano*

Program:

DVOŘÁK — Four Romantic Pieces for Violin and Piano, op. 75
BRAHMS — Sonata for Violin and Piano No. 1 in G Major
COPLAND — Sonata for Clarinet and Piano
STRAVINSKY — *L'Histoire du Soldat*, Suite for Violin, Clarinet and Piano

Sunday, March 22, 2009 — 4:00 p.m.

Hai Xin Wu

Robert deMaine

Zhihua Tang

Fu-Xi Piano Trio

Program to be announced

Sunday, May 3, 2009 — 4:00 p.m.

Arianna String Quartet

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11 TUESDAY *continued*

Wines Elementary School Auditorium (Nov. 11), 701 Newport, & Forsythe Middle School Media Center (Nov. 18), 1655 Newport at Sunset. Free ($25 annual dues for those who join). 327–4781.

★"The BBook of Geek: The Only Geek Humor Book You'll Ever Need": Liberty Borders. Popular geek humorist and BBspot.com creator **Brian Briggs** discusses his satirical guide to all things geek. Signing. *8:30 p.m., Borders, 612 E. Liberty. Free. 668–7652.*

12 WEDNESDAY

★21st Annual Jewish Book Festival: Jewish Community Center. See 5 Wednesday. Today: Georgetown University religion and creative writing professor **Peter Manseau** reads from his new novel ***Songs for the Butcher's Daughter*** (noon), a darkly picaresque memoir of a fictional Yiddish American immigrant poet. Also, Russian American fiction writer **Irina Reyn** reads from her debut novel ***What Happened to Anna K.*** (7:30 p.m.), a story set in the Russian Jewish immigrant community in Queens. 9 a.m.–9:30 p.m.

★"3rd Annual Aging in Place Conference": Housing Bureau for Seniors. See 10 Monday. Today: Glacier Hills nursing director Cathy Slater presents **"A Guide to In-Home Care Services"** (9:30–11 a.m., Glacier Hills Home Care, 3909 Research Park Dr., suite 600), a tour (with lunch) of **Silver Maples of Chelsea** (11 a.m.–12:30 p.m., 100 Silver Maples Dr. off Old Jackson Rd. east of M-52), presentations on **"Balance and Falls"** and **"Home Safety"** (1–2:30 p.m., Chelsea Retirement Communities, 805 W. Middle St., Chelsea), and a panel discussion on **"Local Public Transportation: Maintaining Your Independence and Mobility"** (2:30–3:30 p.m.). 9:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

★U-M Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies. *Nov. 12 & 19.* Talks by visiting scholars. Today: Open Society Institute (London) Higher Education Support Program deputy director Voldemar Tomusk discusses **"Harvesting the Fields of Ignorance: On the Blessings of Not-Knowing and Not-Understanding in the Post-State-Socialist Reforms of Higher Learning."** Also this month: European Council on Foreign Relations senior policy fellow Andrew Wilson discusses **"Challenges for Democracy in the European Neighborhood: Ukraine, Moldova, and Belarus"** (Nov. 19). *Noon–1 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–0351.*

★Brown Bag Organ Series: U-M School of Music. Recital by local organist **Gail Jennings** on the recently installed James Walgreen Organ. Bring a bag lunch. *12:15 p.m., U-M School of Public Health Community Room, 109 S. Observatory. Free. 764–0594.*

Arie & Friends: Jewish Community Center Afternoon Delights. Performance by a string quartet led by Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra director and cellist Arie Lipsky. With AASO violinists Aaron Berofsky and Kathryn Votapek and a violist TBA. Program TBA. The program begins with dessert and socializing. *1:30 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $8. 971–0990.*

★Group Drumming: U-M Turner Geriatrics Center. All seniors invited to join music and health consultant Diane Baker for drumming and singing. Drums provided. *1:30–2:30 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

★Lecture Series: U-M Center for Korean Studies. *Nov. 12 & 19.* Talks by visiting scholars. Today: University of Edinburgh politics and international relations professor Youngmi Kim on **"Internet Culture and the Trouble with Direct Participation in South Korea: Conceptualizing 'Digital Populism.'"** Also this month: University of Kansas sociology professor Kelly Chong on **"Deliverance and Submission: Korean Evangelical Women and the Politics of Gender"** (Nov. 19). *4–5:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–2252.*

U-M Women's Volleyball vs. Ohio State. *7 p.m., Cliff Keen Varsity Arena, S. State at Hoover. $5 (youths age 17 & under, $3). 763–2159.*

"Vegetarian and Vegan Dishes": Eve Restaurant. Demo by Eve Restaurant owner and chef Eve Aronoff. *7 p.m., Eve, Kerrytown. $40. 222–0711.*

★"Mothers Unedited! Frank Talk about Sending Your Kid to College": Ann Arbor District Library. Community High School college prep counselor John Boshoven hosts a panel discussion with local mothers who have had children in college. Q&A. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–4200.*

★"Snowboarding/Kiteboarding 101": Ann Arbor District Library. Red Belly Boardshop staff introduce the sport of snowboarding and its summer sibling kiteboarding. For adults and kids in grade 6 & up. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. Preregistration required. 327–4200.*

★"Copyright and Culture Wars: How Federal Courts Have Become the Arena for Fights over Music, Parody, Fan Fiction, Art, and Fantasy Sports": Ann Arbor District Library. Talk by U-M intellectual property law professor Susan Kornfield. Q&A. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★Fiction Readers Group: Barnes & Noble. All invited to join a discussion of ***Scoop,*** Evelyn Waugh's 1938 satire of foreign correspondents covering a war in the fictitious country of Ishmaelia. Refreshments. *7 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

"Harvest Dinner": Vinology. Vinology chef Brandon creates a 4-course meal using local ingredients. Wine is paired with each course. *7 p.m., Vinology, 110 S. Main St. $60. Reservations required.*

★Mariela Griffor: Shaman Drum Bookshop. This Grosse Pointe Park poet, a native of Chile who was recently named honorary consul of Chile in Michigan, reads from ***House,*** her collection of poems inspired by her involuntary exile from Chile during the Pinochet regime and her abiding love for her homeland. "Mariela Griffor has a rare poet's sensitivity combined with a hard-edged realism that stems, perhaps, from having narrowly survived the Pinochet terror and then having been shaped by years of exile in three different cultures," says WSU journalism professor Jack Lessenberry. "The result is words and thoughts that are sweetly fragrant and yet burn themselves like acid into our sensibilities and souls. This is an amazing book." Signing. *7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

The Children of the World Choir: Grace Bible Church. Marrina Waks directs this large international children's choir that has appeared on *The Tonight Show* and in the film *Face/Off*. The choir's concerts usually feature brightly colored costumes and uplifting pop songs. *7 p.m., Grace Bible Church, 1300 S. Maple Rd. Donation. 663–0589.*

★History Readers Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers. Oakland University German professor emerita Renate Gerulaitis leads a discussion of Lynn Nicholas's ***The Rape of Europa: The Fate of Europe's Treasures in the Third Reich and Second World War.*** *7:30 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 369–2499.*

★"Human Rights": Megiddo Peace Project/Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. All invited to join a discussion. *7:30 p.m., 210 S. Fourth Ave. Free. 761–7967.*

★"Hostas": Ann Arbor Garden Club. Talk by Twixwood Nursery (Berrien Springs) owner Tom Kimmel. *7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 769–2015.*

Brian Wilson: Live Nation. The legendary Beach Boys founder is a songwriter and composer universally recognized as the musical genius responsible for the layered harmonies, ornate hooks, and intricate, inventively comforting arrangements that set the Beach Boys apart from their pop-rock contemporaries. His current show features material from *That Lucky Old Sun*, a collection of nostalgic songs, cowritten with Van Dyke Parks and interspersed with spoken-word passages, celebrating life in southern California. The program also includes a few Beach Boys hits and some of Wilson's other solo work. Wilson signs copies of *That Lucky Old Sun* (12:30 p.m.) at Borders (612 E. Liberty). *7:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $49.50–$89.50 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645–6666.*

★University Chamber Orchestra: U-M School of Music. Kenneth Kiesler directs this U-M music-student ensemble in a program of Mozart's Symphony no. 1, Shostakovich's Piano Concerto no. 1, and Strauss's *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme*. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0594.*

"Chili's Comedy Dojo": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Fast-paced show featuring stand-up comedy by 15 recent graduates of veteran comic and Tonight Show writer Chili Challis's Comedy Dojo. *8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. $5 in advance and at the door. 996–9080.*

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 3 & 8 p.m.

13 THURSDAY

★21st Annual Jewish Book Festival: Jewish Community Center. See 5 Wednesday. Today: former Israeli Defense Forces commando Aaron Cohen discusses his memoir ***Brotherhood of Warriors: Behind Enemy Lines with a Commando in One of the World's Most Elite Counterterrorism Units*** (noon), and Max Sussman and Eli Sussman (see 2 Sunday Whole Foods listing) discuss ***Freshman in the Kitchen: From Clueless Cook to Creative Chef***

Susan Werner is at the Ark Nov. 22 (see Nightspots, p. 81).

(7:30 p.m.), their memoir of their wide range of cooking experiences. 9 a.m.–9:30 p.m.

★"3rd Annual Aging in Place Conference": Housing Bureau for Seniors. See 10 Monday. Today: a talk by St. Joseph Senior Health Services geriatrician Salas Sabnis on **"Healthy Living for an Aging Body"** (10 a.m.–noon) and panel discussions on **"Communications Between Generations"** (12:30–1:30 p.m.) and **"Housing and Personal Care Services on a Low Income"** (2–4 p.m.). 10 a.m.–4 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Senior Health Bldg. lower level cafeteria, 5361 McAuley Dr.

★"Connections Between Health, Disease Prevention, and Healthy Food Access": Women's National Farm and Garden Association. Talk by Washtenaw County Public Health Department program supervisor Jenna Bacolor. *12:30 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. 995–8441.*

"Flower Arranging": Ikebana International Chapter 183. Chapter president Nabuko Sakoda leads a session of ikebana, the Japanese art of flower arrangement. Call for instructions on equipment to bring. *1 p.m., University Commons, 817 Asa Gray Dr. (off Huron Pkwy.). $10 (members, $5) materials fee. (248) 685–7696.*

★"Access Soapbox": Ann Arbor Community Television Network. A chance to express your views, discuss your activities, or announce upcoming events on the local public access station (cable channel 17). Participants are free to talk about anything they wish within CTN guidelines: no direct solicitation of funds, no lottery information, and no material that is obscene, defamatory, invasive of personal privacy, or infringing on copyrights or trademarks. Limited to 5 minutes, each segment features 1 or 2 speakers (with no more than 2 graphics) who talk directly to the camera. Production crew provided by CTN. *Access Soapbox* shows are aired daily for 1 week, beginning on Sunday. *3–6 p.m., CTN studio, 2805 South Industrial, suite 200. Free. Reservations required. 769–7422, ext. 1504.*

★"Spiritual Fertility: A Shamanic Perspective": U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender. Talk by Michigan nurse and Sweet Medicine SunDance instructor **Debbie Mast.** *3 p.m., 2239 Lane Hall, 204 S. State. Free. 764–9537.*

"Healthy and Delicious Eating for One or Two": U-M Turner Geriatrics Center. M-Fit Community Nutrition staff show how to prepare and offer taste samples of a delicious and healthy fall menu featuring minted pea soup, roasted green beans and leeks, salmon in parchment, citrus chicken marinade, and strawberries with balsamic vinegar. *4:30–6 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. $7. 998–9353.*

★"Memorial Projects": U-M School of Art and Design Penny Stamps Lecture Series. Japanese video artist **Jun Nguyen-Hatsushiba** discusses his work that explores his father's Vietnamese homeland and includes surreal images of Vietnamese fishermen pulling rickshaws underwater. *5 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 647–2337.*

"Belgian Ales": Arbor Brewing Company Beer Tasting. A chance to sample and learn about 2 dozen of the finest Belgian and Belgian-style ales available in the U.S, from malty trappists, traditional sour lambics, and Flemish browns to aged, high-gravity ales and crazy concoctions made with fruits and spices. Also, a drawing for beer-related prizes. The price of admission includes unlimited beer sampling and a German appetizer buffet. *7–9 p.m., Arbor Brewing Company, 114 E. Washington. Tickets $25 in advance and (if available) at the door. 213–1393.*

★"Heirloom Cooking with the Brass Sisters": Ann Arbor District Library. Marilyn and Sheila Brass, coauthors of the James Beard Foundation Book Award nominee *Heirloom Baking with the Brass Sisters,* discuss and demonstrate recipes from their new cookbook. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★"Making Up with Mom: Why Mothers and Daughters Disagree about Kids, Careers, and Casseroles (and What to Do about It)": Nicola's Books. Local freelance journalist **Julie Halpert** reads from and discusses the book she cowrote with Deborah Carr. Signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★"Journey: The Adventures of Wolverine MacAlistaire": Nicola's Books. Michigan comic book writer **William Messner-Loebs** discusses a collection of his 1983 comics about a legendary outdoorsman and his escapades on the 1808 Northwestern frontier of Michigan. *7 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★"When the Opposite Sex Isn't: Sexual Orientation in Male-to-Female Transgender People": Sh\aut\ Cabaret & Gallery. Local mental health clinician **Sandra Samons** discusses her new book. Signing. Wine and hors d'oeuvres reception. *7 p.m., Sh\aut\, 325 Braun Ct. Free. 663–0036.*

★Katy Lederer: Shaman Drum Bookshop. This acclaimed New York poet, whose day job is as a trader at a Manhattan hedge fund, reads from ***The Heaven-Sent Leaf,*** a collection of intense lyrical poems charting her speakers' interior landscapes through the lens of the city's highly monetized geography, where the fates of individuals are packaged, priced, and bundled for sale on the open market. Poet-critic Stephen Burt calls the book "sparkling and strange, acrobatic but never evasive, clear-eyed about its own emotional life even as it takes semantics for a tumble." Signing. *7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

★Young Adult Literature Readers Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers. All invited to discuss a book TBA. Refreshments. *7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669–0451.*

★"Northern Lights Azaleas": Ann Arbor Rhododendron Society. Talk by MSU landscape architecture professor **Jon Burley.** *7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Garden, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 769–2015.*

★"The Ottoman Maritime Frontier": U-M Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies. Talk by New York Public Library bibliographer Svat Soucek. *7:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–0350.*

"The Miracle Worker": Skyline High School. *Nov. 13–15.* Anne-Marie Roberts directs Skyline students in William Gibson's compelling drama about the early life of writer Helen Keller and the teacher who helped her overcome the blindness and deafness that had trapped her in a world of isolation. *7:30 p.m., Skyline High School, 2552 N. Maple. Tickets $8 (students, $6) in advance at showtix4u.com and at the door. 994–6515.*

"Eugene Onegin": U-M Opera Theatre. *Nov. 13–16.* Joshua Major directs the University Opera Theatre and Martin Katz conducts the University Symphony Orchestra in Tchaikovsky's passionate opera about an adventurous young man who comes to regret the rashness of his youth when he killed his best friend in a duel and rejected a naive country girl's love. Russian, supertitles. *7:30 p.m., Power Center. $18 & $24 (students, $9) in advance at the Michigan League Ticket Office and at the door. 764–2538.*

★Creative Arts Orchestra: U-M School of Music. This adventurous music-student ensemble plays a program of entirely improvised music drawing on an array of influences from classical and jazz to pop, folk, and world music. *8 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 764–0594.*

Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir: University Musical Society. *See review, p. 61.* This acclaimed Estonian chorus performs works by contemporary Estonian composers, including Arvo Part's Te Deum and *Orient Occident* and Erkki-Sven Tuur's Passion and Requiem. Known for its exquisite, ethereal sound, the choir specializes in Part's choral music, which blends techniques from Gregorian chant, 12th-century polyphony, and Russian Orthodox church music with modern harmonic and melodic elements. The result is an austere yet ethereal, richly spiritual sound that has wide appeal, attracting listeners ranging from the scholarly to the hip. *8 p.m., St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, 2250 E. Stadium Blvd. $35 & $45 in advance at the Michigan League and ums.org and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

★Eugene Chadbourne: WCBN-FM. *See review, p. 63.* Part performance artist, part guitar virtuoso, and part social satirist, Chadbourne offers the rare combination of genuine instrumental wizardry and genuinely lunatic humor. His basic style is an improbable mating of country music and avant-garde jazz ("the missing link between Hank Williams and Sun Ra," as *Melody Maker* once put it), but he's just as likely to cover Tim Buckley or the Beatles as Merle Haggard or Thelonious Monk, or to follow a faster-than-the-speed-of-light version of "Orange Blossom Special" with "Purple Haze" sung in a duck's voice. "There's no music I don't like," Chadbourne explains. "It's important to make fun of all types." His original songs, like "The President Is Insane" or "Let's Not Burn the Flag, Let's Burn a Bush," are known for their gleefully disrespectful trampling of mainstream perspectives. For tonight's solo acoustic show, Chadbourne accompanies himself on acoustic and electric guitar and banjo, and the performance concludes with a demonstration of the electric rake, an instrument he invented. *8 p.m., Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. at William. Free. 763–3500.*

★Country Joe McDonald: U-M Hatcher Graduate Library. This legendary singer-songwriter and political activist is best known as the frontman for Country Joe and the Fish, the 60s psychedelic folk-rock band made famous by their Vietnam protest song "I-Feel-Like-I'm-Fixin'-to-Die Rag." Since the 60s, McDonald has continued to record albums with strong political messages, including the feminist album *Paris Sessions,* a tribute to war nurses, and several antiwar albums. Preceded at 4 p.m. by a panel discussion about **1968,** in conjunction with the current exhibit of Vietnam protest materials in the library gallery. *8 p.m., 100 Hatcher Library, 920 North University. Free (space limited; first come, first served). 764–9377.*

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

"Geoffrey & Jeffrey": Performance Network Professional Season. See 6 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Sean Kent: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Nov. 13–15.* Ann Arbor debut of this Texas stand-up comic, a regular on the NBC show *Last Comic Standing* who's known for his incisive, edgy sociopolitical comedy. His CD *Sex, Drugs, and Politics* is in heavy rotation on satellite radio. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; the Friday and Saturday early shows are nonsmoking. *8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. $7 (Thurs.) & $10 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $9 (Thurs.) & $12 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

14 FRIDAY

Annual Christmas Bazaar and Luncheon: Ladies' Literary Club of Ypsilanti. Held in the club's historic 1840s Greek Revival house, this is the area's oldest bazaar, now in its 46th year. Handmade arts and crafts, "elegant junque," homemade preserves, candies, baked goods, and more. Also, raffle of a watercolor, quilts, a rocking chair, and more. Coffee and tea served in the morning; lunch ($12.50) available 11 a.m.–1:30 p.m. Raffle benefits 2 scholarship funds for local high school students. *9 a.m.–4 p.m., Ladies' Literary Club, 218 N. Washington St., Ypsilanti. Wheelchair-accessible. Free admission. 483–5688.*

★21st Annual Jewish Book Festival: Jewish Community Center. See 5 Wednesday. Today: actor Evan Handler, best known for his role as Harry Goldblatt in *Sex and the City,* reads from his collection of autobiographical essays ***It's Only Temporary: The Good***

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News and the Bad News of Being Alive (noon). 9 a.m.–6 p.m.

Annual Fall Bazaar: Bethlehem United Church of Christ. Sale of jewelry, Christmas decorations, crafts, and baked Christmas goodies. Also, lunch available (11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m., $9). *10 a.m.–1:30 p.m., Bethlehem UCC, 423 S. Fourth Ave. Free admission. 665–6149.*

★**"Arrows, Pizza, and Language: Grammar as a Cultural Tool": U-M Linguistics Department.** Talk by Illinois State University linguistics professor Dan Everett. *4 p.m., 311 West Hall, 550 East University. Free. 764–0353.*

★**"Democratic Relations: India and the U.S. in an Age of Economic Cooperation": U-M Center for South Asian Studies.** Talk by Indian Embassy political counselor **Jawed Ashraf.** *4–6 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 936–0996.*

"Art Date": Gallery Project Fund-Raiser. All LGBT singles and their friends invited for drinks, hors d'oeuvres, and live entertainment by local DJ **Chuck Hampton** ("Gay Marvine") and local performance artists **Adam Boehmer, Amanda Krugliak, Melanie Manos,** and **The Gentlemen Pirates.** Also, a tattoo art exhibit (see Galleries). *6–9 p.m., Gallery Project, 215 S. Fourth Ave. $20 donation. 997–7012.*

U-M Women's Volleyball vs. MSU. *7 p.m., Cliff Keen Varsity Arena, S. State at Hoover. $5 (youths age 17 & under, $3). 763–2159.*

★**U-M Parents Weekend Celebration: Main Street Area Association.** Sidewalk entertainment TBA. *7–9 p.m., downtown area bounded by Main, Liberty, Washington, and Fourth Ave. Free. 669–7112.*

★**Crazy Wisdom Reading Circle: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** All invited to discuss George Monbiot's ***Heat: How to Stop the Planet from Burning.*** *7–9:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★**Mark Webster Reading Series: U-M English Department.** See 7 Friday. Today: prose by **Jarred Williams** and poetry by **Sara Ferguson.** 7 p.m.

U-M Ice Hockey vs. WMU. *7:30 p.m., Yost Ice Arena, 1016 S. State at McKinley. $12–$17. 764–0247.*

★**"The Great American Nerdfighter Tour": Ann Arbor District Library.** An appearance by **John and Hank Green,** the creators of the popular nerd-friendly YouTube channel **vlogbrothers.** John, award-winning young-adult novelist, reads from his new novel ***Paper Towns,*** and Hank, the costar of the Planet Green cable channel TV show *The G Word* and the founder and editor of EcoGeek.org, sings some of his Nerdfighter songs. Also, other nerd-oriented activities and surprise guests. Signing. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

"The Fabulous Fable Factory": Young Actors Guild. *Nov. 14–16.* Kirk Carlson directs young local actors in Joseph Robinette's story of an inquisitive kid who stumbles upon an old factory and a group of fable makers in need of a "moral maker" to complete their tales. *2 & 7:30 p.m., Clonlara School, 1289 Jewett. $10 (kids age 11 & under, $5). 913–9800.*

"The Miracle Worker": Skyline High School. See 13 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

"Miss Saigon": Pioneer Theatre Guild. See 8 Saturday. 7:30 p.m.

★**Angell Hall Observatory Open House: U-M Student Astronomical Society.** *Nov. 14 & 21.* All invited to peer through the telescopes in the observatory and on the Angell Hall roof and to view shows in the planetarium. Also, Student Astronomy Society members give short presentations on a variety of astronomy topics. *8–10 p.m., 5th floor rooftop observatory, Angell Hall (from the large State St. entrance, take one of the elevators on the left to the 5th floor). Free. 764–3440.*

2nd Friday Advanced English Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Northampton, Massachusetts, caller Gary Roodman leads his own dances with music by Debbie Jackson, Martha Stokely, and Earl Gaddis. For experienced dancers. Fast pace, with limited walk-throughs. Roodman also calls dances Nov. 15 (1–4 p.m.) & leads a workshop Nov. 16 (time and location TBA). *8–11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). $10 ($25 for both dances and the workshop). (248) 288–4737.*

★**Radoslav Kvapil: U-M School of Music.** This internationally acclaimed Czech pianist plays works by Dvorak and Janacek. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

★**Fall Concert: Concordia University Wind Ensemble.** Matthew Wolf directs this student ensemble in a new sacred band work by Jacob Bancks commissioned by the ensemble. The program also includes works by Grainger, Ticheli, and Gershwin. *8 p.m.,*

Amy Hempel

A world in miniature

Back in the 1980s, Amy Hempel became famous for one extraordinary short story, "In the Cemetery Where Al Jolson Is Buried." In it the narrator visits a friend who is in the last stages of cancer, and the two women simply talk, or try to find a way to talk, about almost anything but the disease, until the narrator is overwhelmed by her inability to find "the language of grief." The language of the story is spare (Hempel was too easily categorized as a "minimalist"), but the author creates the situation with the exact observation we expect in a fine poem. A few months after I read this story, I had to sit in a hospital room watching my own best friend die, and I realized that I had been instructed in this most difficult of tasks by the example of Hempel's story, even though I'm sure she would cringe at the idea that her stories would "instruct" anyone.

Over the course of the next couple of decades, Hempel published four short collections of stories. The longest piece, "Tumble Home," a seventy-page novella set in a psychiatric home, appeared in her third book. I began to think of her as an exquisite miniaturist, so it came as a kind of surprise when these books were put together to make a *Collected Stories* a couple of years ago. It is a big book, but one that seems to have a memorable gem on almost every page.

Hempel is often a very funny writer, reveling in jokes—both good and bad. For instance, she has one story entitled "Three Popes Walk into a Bar." Another title puns, "And Lead Us Not into Penn Station." Her characters often rely on jokes and wordplay to get them through situations that would otherwise destroy them. Conversely, she risks sentimentality with her obsession with animals, particularly dogs—an obsession almost matched by a preoccupation with the paranormal. If it is starting to sound as if Hempel moves all over the cultural map, perhaps that is true. Yet all of the work in *Collected Stories* feels unified by an exquisitely calm prose style, by a quality of perception, and by a generous and compassionate sensibility. Her characters are very much a part of our place and time, and she enjoys them all.

In a couple of places, Hempel has included stories that are only one sentence long. Certainly, they are their own little jokes, but they can also suggest much more than that. Whole characters are hidden in them. Here's "Memoir," an entire story from her fourth collection: "Just once in my life—oh, when have I ever wanted anything just once in my life?"

Amy Hempel reads from her short stories at the U-M's Residential College Auditorium on Thursday, November 20.

—Keith Taylor

Concordia University Chapel of the Holy Trinity, 4090 Geddes at Earhart. Free. 995–7300.

Charlene Kaye: Canterbury House. This local indie pop-folk singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist plays a blend of classical and folk music. "Her classical training is evident in her ability to effortlessly blend genres using only a couple of keys or strums of the guitar," says a *Michigan Daily* review of Kaye's new album *Things I Will Need in the Past. 8 p.m., Canterbury House, 721 E. Huron. $10 (students & seniors, $5). 764–3162.*

The G-Men. This all-male U-M a cappella group sings a program TBA. Also, slam poetry by the local performance poetry troupe **Wordworks** and a dance performance by a group TBA. *8 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. $10 (students, $7) available in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office and at ticketmaster.com.*

"Scenes and Sondheim": Kerrytown Concert House 25th Anniversary Performance. Local and visiting musicians perform scenes and arias from operas by Bizet, Mozart, Verdi, and Weill, along with scenes from Sondheim musicals. Performers include mezzo-sopranos **Deanna Relyea** and **Wendy Bloom,** sopranos **Anna Tamm-Relyea** and **Jane Schoonmaker Rodgers,** bass-baritone **Gary Relyea,** and vocalists **Judy Dow, Larry Henkel,** and **Lisa Gray.** Piano accompanists are **Kevin Bylsma, James Wilhelmsen,** and **Joel Hastings.** Wine is served. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15, $20, & $30. Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

"Measure for Measure": U-M Rude Mechanicals. *Nov. 14–16.* U-M student James Manganello directs a cast of U-M students in Shakespeare's nasty comedy about the role of justice, mercy, and moral high-mindedness in human affairs. The benevolent duke of Vienna, disturbed by the moral degradation of his city, takes a leave of absence and turns over power to a puritanical hypocrite, who promptly condemns a man to death for getting his fiancee pregnant. It gets worse from there, and the duke's timely return to sort everything out doesn't suffice to dispel the general human stink. *8 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theater. Tickets $5 (students, $3) in advance and at the door. 763–1107.*

"The Apple Tree": Dexter Community Players. *Nov. 14–16 & 21 & 22.* Jason Smith directs local actors in Jerry Bock and Sheldon Harnick's collection of 3 one-act musicals about men, women, and temptation. "The Diary of Adam and Eve" is a quirky, touching spin on the Genesis story adapted from Mark Twain's "Extracts from Adam's Diary," and "The Lady or the Tiger" is a rock 'n' roll musical based on Frank Stockton's tale about the fickleness of love. "Passionella" is based on Jules Feiffer's offbeat Cinderella story about a chimney sweep whose dreams of being a glamorous movie star nearly sabotage her chance for true love. *8 p.m., Dexter High School Copeland Auditorium, 7714 Dexter–Ann Arbor Rd., Dexter. $12 in advance at dextercommunityplayers.org & $15 at the door. 424–4100.*

"Jake's Women": U-M Residential College Players. *Nov. 14–16.* Allison Grekin directs fellow RC students in Neil Simon's comedy about a writer who holds imaginary conversations with the many women in his life, both real and imagined, to help himself deal with his pending separation from his wife. *8 p.m., RC Auditorium East Quad, 701 East University. $5 (students, $3). 763–0176.*

"Eugene Onegin": U-M Opera Theatre. See 13 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Jack Goes Boating": Blackbird Theatre. See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

"On Golden Pond": Saline Area Players. See 7 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Hell's Bell": Dreamland Theater. See 7 Friday. 8 p.m.

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"Geoffrey & Jeffrey": Performance Network Professional Season. See 6 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Sean Kent: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 13 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

"Girls Night \aut\ with Tracy Mack": Sh\aut\ Cabaret and Gallery. Performances by local blues-rock and folk-rock singer-songwriter Mack and Durham, North Carolina, folk singer-songwriter **Jamie Anderson.** *9 p.m.–midnight, Sh\aut\, 325 Braun Ct. Cover TBA. 663–0036.*

15 SATURDAY

Annual Holiday Craft Show: Saline Area Senior Center. This sale features handmade soap, wreaths, ornaments, jewelry, knitted items, carved wood items, home decor, and more. Also, a bake sale. Lunch available. *9 a.m.–2 p.m., Senior Center, 7190 N. Maple (behind the middle school), Saline. Free admission. 429–9274.*

★**"Equipped to Be a Blessing": AGLOW International.** Talk by club members Rick and Linda Stevens. AGLOW is a network of Christian women who meet for prayer and community outreach. Women of all faiths invited. Light refreshments. *9:30 a.m.–noon, WCC Liberal Arts Bldg., room 340, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 971–4545.*

"The Quilt Day": Greater Ann Arbor Quilt Guild. Talk by award-winning art quilter **Esterita Austin.** Followed by a members show-and-tell and a sale of Peaceful Traditions quilting supplies. *9:45 a.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. $10 (members, free). Wheelchair-accessible. 953–9650.*

★**"Cesar Takes a Break": Barnes & Noble.** East Grand Rapids writer **Susan Thoms** reads her story for kids in grades K–3 about the escapades of a green iguana that has been left at school during spring break. Also, a craft activity. *11 a.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

U-M Football vs. Northwestern. *Time TBA, Michigan Stadium. $50. 764–0247.*

★**"National Gaming in Libraries Day: Dance Dance Revolution and Brawl": Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to compete simultaneously with gamers in libraries throughout the country in beginner and standard tournaments of this computer-guided movement game. Prizes. Also, a chance to play the Super Smash Brothers video game Brawl. *1–5 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–4200.*

"GPS Geo-Caching": Leslie Science and Nature Center. Participants in this family-oriented program take a ramble through fields and woods using a global positioning system and their problem-solving skills to find several hidden treasures. Bring your own GPS or use one of Leslie's. *1–3 p.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. $8 (family, $30). 997–1553.*

★**Jane O'Connor: Waters Place Borders.** This children's book writer reads from her two new Fancy Nancy books. ***Fancy Nancy Sees Stars*** is about Nancy's field trip to the planetarium, and ***Let's Get Fancy Together!*** offers a peek at all of the fancy things in Nancy's purse. Also, illustrator **Robin Glasser** joins O'Connor to sign books. Fancy attire encouraged. *1 p.m., Borders, 3140 Lohr Rd. Free. 997–8884.*

★**"Geology of Waterloo": Waterloo Recreation Area.** WRA park interpreter Kathy Kavanagh explains how the glaciers shaped the Waterloo Recreation Area. *2 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center, Bush Rd. (west off Pierce Rd. from I-94 exit 157), Chelsea. Free. Space limited; preregistration required. $6 vehicle entry fee. 475–3170.*

★**"Full Moon Campfire": Superior Land Conservancy/Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy.** All invited to enjoy a family-oriented campfire in one of the largest Conservancy-owned nature preserves in southeast Michigan. Bring campfire refreshments and lawn chairs; firewood appreciated. *5 p.m., LeFurge Woods, Prospect Rd. (½ mile north of Geddes), Superior Twp. Free. 482–7414.*

★**"Monty Python Fluxx": Vault of Midnight.** All invited to try the new Monty Python version of this card game. Also, screenings of Monty Python flicks and snacks. *6 p.m., Vault of Midnight, 219 S. Main St. Free. 998–1413.*

★**"Under the Beaver Moon": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission.** WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner leads a hike to call for owls, listen for migrating birds, and look at the stars. Followed by hot drinks around a bonfire. *7–9 p.m., Independence Lake County Park, 3200 Jennings (north off North Territorial), Webster Twp. Free. $5 vehicle entry fee. 971–6337.*

"Rockin' the CASA": Friends of Court-Appointed Special Advocates Fund-Raiser. A BBQ buffet, line dancing lessons, a silent auction, an open bar, and dancing to a DJ. Proceeds benefit CASA, an organization that helps foster children. *7–11 p.m., Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. $35 in advance at casawashtenaw.org. 222–6908.*

EMU Bandorama: EMU Music Department. A rousing program of music for bands featuring the University Concert Winds, the Symphonic Band, and the EMU Marching Band in full regalia. *7 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Tickets $10 (students & seniors, $8; kids under 12, $6) in advance and (if available) at the door. 487–1221.*

"PanPlay": Riverfolk Theater. *Nov. 15 & 16.* Peter Knox directs young local actors in his adaptation of *Peter Pan,* J. M. Barrie's story of a boy who wouldn't grow up. This version sprinkles the traditional story with singing, dancing, and Native American, Celtic, and pirate legends. *7 p.m., Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. Tickets $10 at the door only. 428–7716.*

"In the Same Sky: Eagle and Condor Flying Together." Original songs and instrumentals that fuse North and South American folk idioms by a trio featuring panpiper **Oscar Santillan,** a Kichwa Indian raised in a family of musicians in Ecuador, and the local husband-and-wife duo of fiddler **Laszlo Slomovits** and Celtic harpist **Helen Slomovits.** The trio has released a CD. *7:30 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. $10 at the door only. 665–0409.*

"Celebrating Community Through Stories": Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild 17th Annual Tellabration. Area storytellers present a storytelling program for adults & youth age 14 & older. Emcee is local singer-songwriter **Kathleen Moore.** One of more than 300 "Tellabration" programs being held around the country. Proceeds help fund free area storytelling events. There is a children's "Tellabration" at the Ann Arbor District Library on November 16 (see listing). *7:30 p.m., Genesis of Ann Arbor (Temple Beth Emeth/St. Clare's Episcopal Church), 2309 Packard at Eastover. $10 at the door only. 665–4312.*

"The Fabulous Fable Factory": Young Actors Guild. See 14 Friday. 2 & 7:30 p.m.

"Miss Saigon": Pioneer Theatre Guild. See 8 Saturday. 7:30 p.m.

"The Miracle Worker": Skyline High School. See 13 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

3rd Saturday Contra Dance: Cobblestone Farm Dancers. Robin Warner calls to music by the Pittsfield Open Band. No partner needed; all dances taught; beginners welcome. Lesson at 7:45 p.m. Wear cool, casual clothes and comfy, flat, smooth-soled shoes. *8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). $10. 426–0241.*

★**"Crosstalk": U-M School of Music.** Original audiovisual compositions by performing arts technology faculty. *8 p.m., U-M Music School McIntosh Theater, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

Annual Fall Concert: Amazin' Blue. The oldest U-M coed a cappella ensemble performs pop songs. Its current repertoire includes U2's "Where the Streets Have No Name," the Beatles' "Because," Norah Jones's "Be Here to Love Me," and more. *8 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Tickets $12 (students, $7) available in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. 763–TKTS.*

149th Annual Fall Concert: Men's Glee Club (U-M School of Music). Paul Rardin conducts this popular U-M student men's chorus, the second-oldest college glee club in the U.S. The program includes Rardin's "Sound Off," Marshall Bartholomew's "Amo, Amas, I Love a Lass," Timothy Takach's "She Moved Through the Fair," Mathias's Gloria, Mendelssohn's "Laudate Pueri," Poulenc's "Quatre Petites Prieres de Saint Francois d'Assise," Philip Duey's "Ain't Got Time to Die," David Morrow's "I Can't Tarry," and Wendell Whalum's arrangement of

comedy

Joe DeVito
Nerd mafioso

Joe DeVito comes onstage with no gimmicks. He doesn't sing songs, wear funny clothes, or pretend to be anything other than what he is: a nerdy, clever New York Italian. We should all be so comfortable in our own skin.

DeVito offers himself, his upbringing, and cunning social observations as comedic sacrament. He looks so much like the guy on the Verizon commercials that his first joke is about how he can't use his cell phone in public because people harass him. Then he says there should be a "Nerd Mafia." They could shake up the Internet cafes. "Nice place ya got here," he growls, looking around and striking a pose that's a bizarre mixture of geek and tough guy. "It'd be a shame if you got a computer virus."

DeVito is good friends with Morgan Spurlock, who recruited him to help write the documentary *Supersize Me*. That's what's brought me to see him really. I loved the humor in that movie—precise, dry, and based on how bizarre reality is. Once there, I was relieved to see DeVito perform. His break from his corporate job is a bold step of faith. He's realized his higher purpose.

Thankfully, he's creative enough to poke fun at folks without being horribly offensive. In New York, he says, people can't smoke inside. They're only allowed to smoke outside. In ditches. While other people throw rocks at them. He also says that after hanging out with his vegetarian friends, he goes out and punches an animal. "Take that!" he announces triumphantly.

Like every good Italian, DeVito loves food. He says Angelina Jolie used to be his idea of a great dream but now—and here he closes his eyes and rubs his chest—he dreams about Betty Crocker.

After chatting for a bit with one woman in the audience, he suddenly exclaims, "Wow, you are knocked up! How did I not notice that?" He seems genuinely surprised and excited about her pregnancy, and then launches into a tirade about how spoiled kids are today. "I know you shouldn't hit your kids," he says, "but what about other people's kids?"

Near the end of his gig, DeVito shows us a gigantic, foam-board-mounted blowup of his eighth-grade school picture. I won't spoil it by describing it to you in detail, but I will say it made me wonder, "What was he thinking?" Then I realized what a brilliant idea it is. We should all be carrying a giant version of our eighth-grade picture around, for those dark moments when life doesn't seem to make sense.

Joe DeVito returns to the Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase Thursday through Saturday, November 20–22.

—Charmie Gholson

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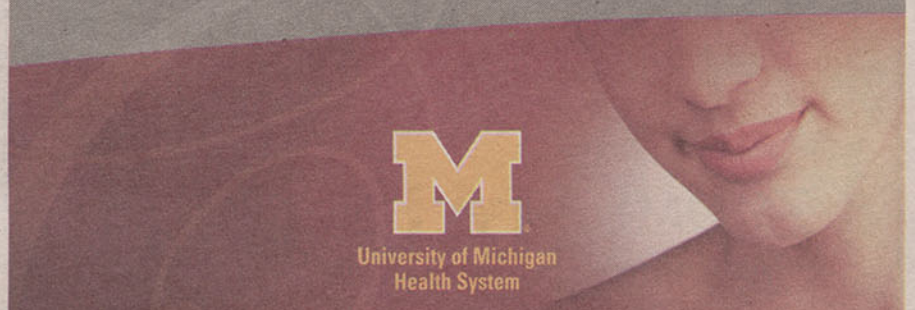

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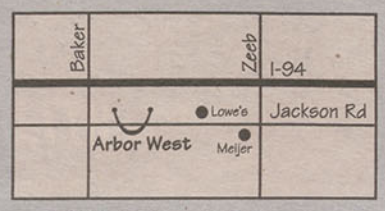

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15 SATURDAY *continued*

the traditional Nigerian Christmas song "Betelehemu." Also, a guest performance by the popular Glee Club quartet **The Friars.** *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $15 (students with ID, $5) in advance at mgc.tickets@umich.edu and at the door. 764–1448.*

Vivo Sinfonietta: University Lutheran Chapel Common Cup. *Postponed from October.* Brett Luginbill conducts this local chamber ensemble in a Bach's concerto for orchestra in D major, Dvorak's Serenade for Strings in E Major, and Beethoven's Symphony no. 1 in C Major. *8 p.m., University Lutheran Chapel, 1511 Washtenaw. $15 (students, $10). 971–0550, 327–6914.*

Alice Van Wambeke & Martha Folts: Academy of Early Music. These 2 local harpsichordists play duets by W. F. Bach, J. S. Bach, Couperin, Soler, Gaspard Le Roux, and others. *8 p.m. (doors open at 7:30 p.m.), St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Tickets $15 (seniors, $12; students, $5) at the door only. 665–5758.*

Andrew Kratzat Trio: Canterbury House. Led by award-winning jazz bassist Kratzat, this local trio includes guitarist Tomek Miernowski and drummer David Scalia. *8 p.m., Canterbury House, 721 E. Huron. $10 (students & seniors, $5). 764–3162.*

"Dances Sacred & Profane": Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra. AASO music director Arie Lipsky conducts the orchestra in a program highlighted by a performance of Handel's Harp Concerto in B-flat Major featuring award-winning French harpist **Primor Sluchin.** Also, Debussy's Spanish-influenced *Danses: Danse Sacree, Danse Profane,* Tchaikovsky's Suite no. 3 in G Major, and the Overture to Schubert's *Rosamunde*. Preceded at 7 p.m. by a talk by Lipsky. *8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $10–$47 (discounts for seniors, students, and kids age 12 & under) in advance at the AASO office (200 E. Huron, suite 470), a2so.com, and at the door. $26 dinner-and-concert package available for those ages 21–39. 994–4801.*

"Eugene Onegin": U-M Opera Theatre. See 13 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Apple Tree": Dexter Community Players. See 14 Friday. 2 & 8 p.m.

"Jake's Women": U-M Residential College Players. See 14 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Measure for Measure": U-M Rude Mechanicals. See 14 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Geoffrey & Jeffrey": Performance Network Professional Season. See 6 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Jack Goes Boating": Blackbird Theatre. See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

"On Golden Pond": Saline Area Players. See 7 Friday. 8 p.m.

Sean Kent: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 13 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

"Girls Night \aut\ with Tracy Mack": Sh\aut\ Cabaret and Gallery. Local blues-rock and folk-rock singer-songwriter Mack plays with her new band. *9 p.m.–midnight, Sh\aut\, 325 Braun Ct. Cover TBA. 663–0036.*

16 SUNDAY

Holiday Craft Sale: Pride and Honor Flight Michigan. Sale of handmade crafts by local artists. Hot dogs, sloppy joes, chips, and beverages available. Proceeds go toward trips for WW II vets to the Washington, D.C., WW II memorial. Door prizes. *9 a.m.–5 p.m., Dexter American Legion Post 577, 8225 Dexter-Chelsea Rd., Dexter. $2 admission. 426–8931.*

★21st Annual Jewish Book Festival: Jewish Community Center. See 5 Wednesday. Today: children's writer **Cambria Gordon** reads from her kid-oriented book ***The Down-to-Earth Guide to Global Warming*** (11 a.m.), and New York journalist and stand-up comic **Lisa Alcalay Klug** (see U-M Hillel listing below) reads from her ***Cool Jew: The Ultimate Guide for Every Member of the Tribe*** (7 p.m.). Also, a **local author fair** at 10 a.m. 9 a.m.–9 p.m.

★"Hills of Ann Arbor Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Fast-, moderate-, and slow-paced rides, 22–44 miles, over some of the city's toughest hills. Each route is made up of 3 to 5 loops, so you can easily drop out if you get worn out. *10 a.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 971–3610, 996–9122.*

★"Under a Green Sky: Global Warming, the Mass Extinctions of the Past, and What They Can Tell Us about the Future": Ann Arbor Unitarian Fellowship. Retired Montessori teacher Winifred Wylie discusses popular science writer Peter D. Ward's book. *10 a.m., Burns Park Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 994–4473.*

21st Annual Collectible Teddy Bear Show and Sale: Bright Star Promotions. Giant show and sale of handmade cloth, clay, or wooden teddy bears of every imaginable size, color, and personality, and bear accessories made by local and national artisans. Free appraisals. Door prizes. Preceded at 9:30 a.m. by an early bird sneak preview ($15) with refreshments. *10:30 a.m.–4 p.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. $6 (kids ages 3–12, $2). (502) 423–STAR.*

★"Amigurumi: Crochet Happy Fun": Ann Arbor District Library. All adults and kids in grades 6 & up invited to learn about this Japanese art of knitting or crocheting small stuffed toys and make an amigurumi cupcake, mushroom, or creature to take home. *1–4 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327–4200.*

Susan Harrison: The Ark. Family concert by this Kalamazoo singer-songwriter and storyteller and her colorful PALamazoo puppet characters. Her repertoire includes songs about fireflies that "do a sparkly dance in their underpants," a monster named Godzilla who "shakes his pelvis and looks like Elvis," a dog that sings and a cat that scats, turtles that tango and reindeer that "shuffle off to Buffalo." *1 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $10 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"Rapunzel": Ann Arbor Junior Theater. See 6 Thursday. 1 p.m.

Dave Liebman: The Firefly Club Brown Bag Brunch Series. Jazz ensemble led by this veteran New York City avant-garde soprano saxophonist, a versatile improviser who plays everything from bebop to free jazz to Puccini arias and originals. Liebman also plays tenor sax and flute. His current quartet includes guitarist Vic Juris, bassist Tony Marino, and drummer Marko Marcinko. "After years of playing together, the Liebman Group is a closely attuned band that plays challenging, colorful music that seems capable of drawing the most blase of audiences into its orbit," says an *All About Jazz* critic. *1:30 p.m., Firefly Club, 637 S. Main. $20 includes a box lunch. 665–9090.*

"If You Give a Pig a Pancake & Other Stories": Theatreworks USA Two Beans Productions (Michigan Theater Foundation Not Just for Kids Series). This renowned New York City–based children's theater troupe returns to the Michigan Theater to present its musical revue, an adaptation of 8 popular kids books, including the title tale and ***Diary of a Worm, Fluffy the Classroom Guinea Pig, Horace and Morris but Mostly Dolores, How I Became a Pirate, Lilly's Big Day, The Paper Bag Princess,*** and ***Ruby Mae Has Something To Say.*** *1:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $14 (MTF members, $12) in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

★"Fable-icious": Performance Network Children's Theater Network (Barnes & Noble). Chelsea Sadler directs local actors in excerpts from Kimberly Yost and Patrick Farrell's musical adaptation and modernization of several classic Aesop stories, including "The Tortoise & the Hare," "The Ant & the Grasshopper," "The Fox & the Grapes," "The Boy Who Cried Wolf," and more. *2 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

Open House Bazaar: Palestinian Aid Society. Display and sale of hand-embroidered purses, pillow covers, table runners, and wall hangings made by Palestinian widows attempting to support themselves. *2–7 p.m., 3325 Bluett (off Burbank from Green Rd.). Free admission. 668–6430.*

★Washtenaw Library for the Blind and Disabled: Ann Arbor District Library. A chance to learn about the programs and services of this library that is relocating to the AADL in January. *2–4 p.m., AADL meeting room (4th floor), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

"Spiders & Their Kin": Waterloo Natural History Association. EMU biology professor Cara Shillington presents an entertaining, informative talk, with live specimens, on spiders, scorpions, and other fascinating invertebrates, including poisonous spiders in Michigan, where they hang out, and how to avoid them. *2 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center, Bush Rd. (west from Pierce Rd. off I-94 exit 157), Chelsea. $2 (family, $5). $4 vehicle entrance fee. 475–3170.*

★"Your Truest Self: Embracing the Woman You Are Meant to Be": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. Inspirational speaker and interfaith spiritual teacher Janice Lynne Lundy discusses her new book. *2 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★"A History of the U-M Medical School": Ann Arbor District Library/Washtenaw County Historical Society. Talk by U-M urology professor **David Bloom.** *2–4 p.m., Ann Arbor District Library multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560, 662–9092.*

★**Enlightened Minds Book Club: Nicola's Books.** All invited to discuss ***Spiritual Economics: The Principles and Process of True Prosperity,*** Eric Butterworth's nontheological self-help book. *2 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 272–9353.*

★**"Children's Tellabration": Ann Arbor District Library.** Storytelling program for kids age 5 & up with some of the Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild members featured last night (see listing) in the adult Tellabration show. In conjunction with Children's Book Week. *2–3:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–4200.*

Family Dance: Pittsfield Union Grange. All children and their parents or grandparents invited for an afternoon of contra and square dancing with callers John Freeman, Ed Vincent, and David Park Williams with music by David West and Donna Baird. Followed by Grange-baked cookies. *2–4 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). $12 per family. 769–1052.*

"The Fabulous Fable Factory": Young Actors Guild. See 14 Friday. 2 p.m.

PanPlay: Riverfolk Theater. See 15 Saturday. 2 p.m.

"Measure for Measure": U-M Rude Mechanicals. See 14 Friday. 2 p.m.

"Eugene Onegin": U-M Opera Theatre. See 13 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"The Apple Tree": Dexter Community Players. See 14 Friday. 2 p.m.

"Miss Saigon": Pioneer Theatre Guild. See 8 Saturday. 2 p.m.

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 2 p.m.

"Jack Goes Boating": Blackbird Theatre. See 1 Saturday. 2 p.m.

"Geoffrey & Jeffrey": Performance Network Professional Season. See 6 Thursday. 2 p.m.

Team USA: USA Hockey National Team Development Program. *Nov. 16, 21, & 22.* This Ann Arbor–based program features 46 of the best 16- and 17-year-old American ice hockey players under the guidance of U.S. National coach Jeff Jackson. The program fields 2 teams—the Under-17 Team and the Under-18 Team—that play full schedules, September-March, against teams from the top American junior leagues (players ages 18–21), American college teams, and comparable European national teams. Today: **Team USA Under-17 vs. Motor City Machine** (Brownstown, Michigan) of the U.S. Hockey League. *3 p.m., Ann Arbor Ice Cube, 2121 Oak Valley Dr. at Scio Church Rd. $6 (seniors, students, & children, $6; kids under 5, free). 327–9251.*

★**"26 Years of Buying Local All Around the World": First Unitarian Universalist Church 17th Annual Klein Lecture.** Talk by Zingerman's owner **Ari Weinzweig.** *3 p.m., First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4001 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 665–6158.*

Children's Puppet Shows: Dreamland Theater. *Nov. 16, 23, & 30.* The Dreamland Puppet Troupe presents several marionette, rod, and shadow puppet shows for kids. *3:30 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 26 N. Washington St. Ypsilanti. $5 (kids age 3 & under, free). 657–2337.*

Adult Drum Circle: Arts in Motion Dance Studio. All adults invited to join a group drumming session. Bring your own drum, or use one of Arts in Motion's. *4–5:30 p.m., Arts in Motion, 2841 Boardwalk. $5 per person. 222–6246.*

★**"Smoking Can Be Good for You!": Culinary Historians of Ann Arbor.** Durham's Tracklements owner **T. R. Durham** discusses his new book ***The Smoked Seafood Cookbook.*** Signing. *4–6 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin Ave. Free. 662–8661.*

Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra: University Musical Society. Bard College president and American Symphony Orchestra director **Leon Botstein** conducts this orchestra that was founded in the 1940s as Israel's national radio orchestra. It is joined tonight by internationally renowned violinist **Robert McDuffie** in performances of Sternberg's *The Twelve Tribes of Israel,* Bernstein's Serenade for Violin and Orchestra, and Copland's Symphony no. 3. *4 p.m., Hill Auditorium. $10–$75 in advance at the Michigan League and ums.org and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

★**"Cool Jew: The Ultimate Guide for Every Member of the Tribe": U-M Hillel.** Former *Associated Press* and *Los Angeles Times* writer **Lisa Alcalay Klug** discusses her new book. Called a response to *The Preppy Handbook,* Klug's tongue-in-cheek cultural guide contains entries ranging from "Self-Help for the Christmas-Carol Intolerant" to "Heebonics for the Yiddish Impaired." Signing. *Time TBA, Hillel, 1429 Hill St. Free. 769–0500.*

★**Contemporary Directions Ensemble: U-M School of Music.** This adventurous music-student ensemble performs works TBA. *7:30 p.m., U-M Mu-*

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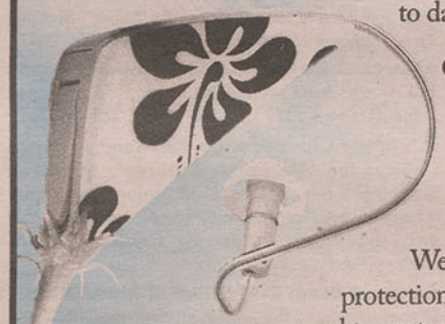

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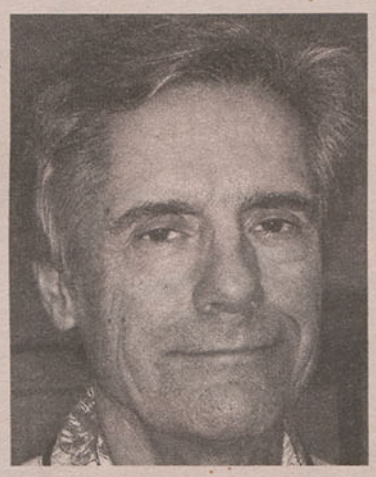

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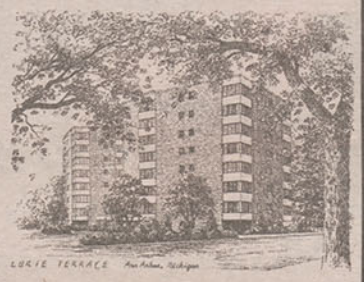

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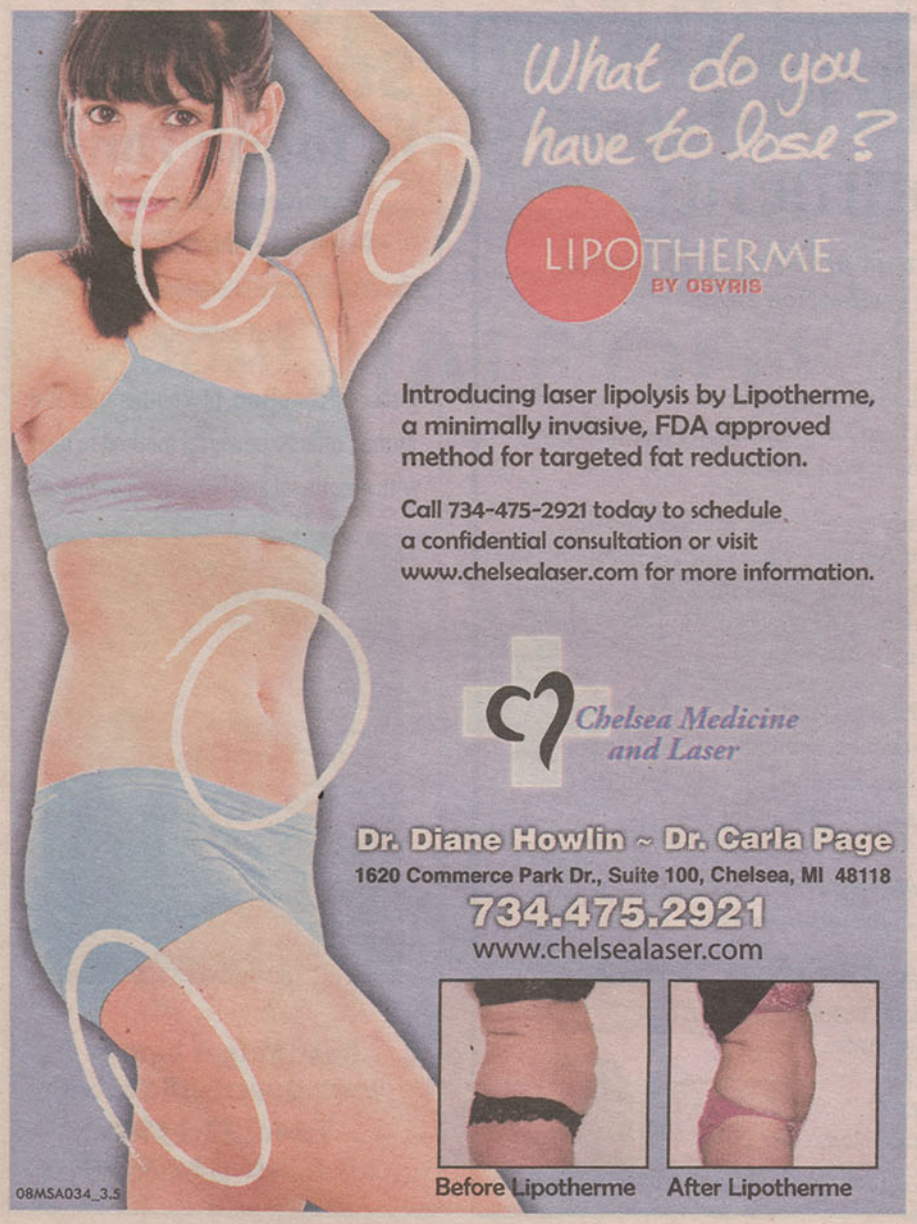
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16 SUNDAY *continued*

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★**Student Brass Quintet Recital: U-M School of Music.** This music-student ensemble performs works TBA. *8 p.m., U-M Music School McIntosh Theater, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

"Jake's Women": U-M Residential College Players. See 14 Friday. 8 p.m.

17 MONDAY

★**21st Annual Jewish Book Festival: Jewish Community Center.** See 5 Wednesday. Today: National Jewish Center president rabbi Brad Hirschfield discusses his ***You Don't Have to Be Wrong for Me to Be Right: Finding Faith Without Fanaticism*** (noon). 9 a.m.–9:30 p.m.

★**Book Club: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** All seniors age 50 & older invited to join Lucia Skoman to discuss a book (TBA at a2gov.org/senior). *12:15 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769–5911.*

★**"Radical Byzantium: American Archaeology in Greece Between the Wars": U-M Modern Greek Program.** Lecture by Connecticut College art history professor Kostis Kourelis. *4 p.m., 2175 Angell Hall. Free. 764–0360.*

★**"The Politics of Insurgency and Counterinsurgency and the Reproductive Health of Sudanese Women": U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender.** Talk by Loyola Marymount University history professor Jok Madut Jok. *5:30 p.m., 4701 Haven Hall, 505 S. State St. Free. 764–9537.*

★**Stephen Burks: U-M College of Architecture & Urban Planning.** Talk by this well-known Brooklyn, New York, industrial designer whose studio Ready-made Projects is known for innovative, sleek, modern furniture. *6 p.m., Art & Architecture Bldg., 2000 Bonisteel, North Campus. Free. 936–0221.*

★**Embroiderers Guild of America.** Stitchers of all abilities invited to work on their projects, socialize, and learn about guild activities. *7 p.m., United Way, 2305 Platt. Free to visitors ($30 annual dues). 975–4348.*

Frank Warren: EMU Campus Life. Warren is the creator of PostSecret, a communal art project in which people anonymously create postcards containing previously undisclosed secrets about themselves and mail them to PostSecret. Tonight he discusses some of the secrets censored from his first book and tells stories about people whose lives have been changed by sharing a secret. *7 p.m., EMU Student Center Grand Ballroom, 900 Oakwood (off Washtenaw), EMU campus, Ypsilanti. $5 (EMU students, free). 487–3045.*

★**Todd Hasak-Lowy: Shaman Drum Bookshop.** This University of Florida Hebrew language and literature professor reads from ***Captives,*** his new mordantly comic novel about a screenwriter disgruntled both with his family life and the state of the world whose current project—a vigilante revenge fantasy—begins to take over his real life. "How rare and exhilarating to find a book like *Captives* that is both dramatically engrossing and spiritually wise," says New School University writing teacher Joshua Shenk. "Todd Hasak-Lowy can do story as well as Stephen King and parable as well as Martin Buber." Signing. *7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

★**Margaret Parker: Ann Arbor Women Artists.** Talk by this local multimedia artist. *7:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Art Center, 117 W. Liberty. Free. 483–1897.*

★**"Climate Changes at the Poles and at Home: Choices for Alternative Futures": Michigan Botanical Club.** Talk by U-M ecology and evolutionary biology professor Knute Nadelhoffer. *7:45 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 710–5502.*

★**Concert Band: U-M School of Music.** Rodney Dorsey conducts this music-student ensemble in a program highlighted by Husa's moving *Music for Prague 1968,* a work banned in Czechoslovakia until Vaclav Havel's election. The band also plays new music school professor Kristin Kuster's *Lost Gulch Lookout*. Preceded at 7:15 by a lecture by U-M student group Enharmonia. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 769–0594.*

★**Jazz Combos: U-M School of Music.** *Nov. 17 & 18.* U-M music professor Ed Sarath leads these music-student ensembles in original compositions and jazz standards. *8 p.m., U-M Music School McIntosh Theater, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

18 TUESDAY

★**"Reconciliation: Dickens's 'Great Expectations' . . . and Ours": Concordia University Books and Coffee.** All invited to join a discussion of Dickens's classic novel and the split between the imagined and the real self. *4 p.m., Earhart Manor, 4090 Geddes at Earhart. Free. 995–7300.*

"Battle of the Bubbles": Vinology. A tasting of 8–10 sparkling beverages, including French champagne, Prosecco, California sparklers, Cava, and other sparkling wines. Also, cheese plates and appetizers. *7 p.m., Vinology, 110 S. Main St. $40. Reservations required.*

★**"Depression Treatments: The Promise of Personalized Medicine": Ann Arbor District Library.** U-M Depression Center psychiatrist Melvin McInnis discusses the latest research on pharmacogenetics, an emerging field based on the genetic dimension of response to medications. Followed by a panel with U-M Depression Center experts. Q&A. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★**"Finding a College That Fits": Washtenaw County Alliance for Gifted Education.** Talk by Community High School college counselor John Boshoven. Also, former club presidents Janine Shahinian and Cheryl White discuss "Strategies That Work for Gifted Students." *7–9 p.m., Ann Arbor District Library Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School Rd. & Packard). Free. 663–1706.*

★**Writers Reading at Sweetwaters.** Award-winning Detroit poet **Mary Jo Firth Gillett** reads from ***Soluble Fish,*** her debut collection of humorous, playful poems that take up a range of quotidian topics from teaching poetry to watching her father fillet a fish in order to explore boundaries, familial and love relationships, and other aspects of being human. "Gillett's juxtapositions delight the senses and intellect simultaneously, making a beeline for the heart of the matter through their vivid attentiveness to the materiality of everyday and not-so-everyday experience," says poet Phillis Levin. Followed by open-mike readings for poets and other creative writers. *7–9 p.m., Sweetwaters Coffee & Tea, 123 W. Washington. Free. 369–2798.*

★**"Sweet Land of Liberty: The Forgotten Struggle for Civil Rights in the North": Shaman Drum Bookshop.** University of Pennsylvania history professor **Thomas Sugrue,** winner of the Bancroft Prize in American History for his *Origins of the Urban Crisis,* discusses his new book. *7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

"Hot Healthy Topics for the Working Woman": American Business Women's Association. Talk by U-M dietician Julie Stocks. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by dinner. *7:15 p.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. $18 (includes dinner). Preregistration required. 972–6390.*

★**Washtenaw Ski Touring Club.** Club members discuss trips for the coming year. Also, a raffle of walking ski poles. *7:30 p.m., Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 662–SKIS.*

★**Zeitouna: American Association of University Women.** Local Arab and Jewish women discuss their group that has been meeting since 2002 to discuss Middle East conflicts, their personal histories, and the politics of peace and justice. *7:30 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. 973–6287.*

★**"Journey Through the Arctic: An Odyssey Through an Imperiled Landscape": Sierra Club.** Talk by Arctic Refuge Defense Campaign coordinator **Chad Kister.** Refreshments. *7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free.*

★**David Broder: U-M Ford Presidential Library.** This veteran *Washington Post* political correspondent discusses the postelection political landscape. Broder is a regular commentator on CNN's *Inside Politics* and frequently appears on NBC's *Meet the Press* and PBS's *Washington Week*. Followed by a reception. *7:30 p.m., Ford Library, 1000 Beal. Free. 205–0555.*

★**"History of the Keyboard, Part 1": EMU Music Department.** EMU music professor **James Wagner** performs music for the organ, clavichord, harpsichord, and piano. *7:30 p.m., EMU Alexander Bldg. Organ Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

★**Jazz Combos: U-M School of Music.** See 17 Monday. 8 p.m.

19 WEDNESDAY

"The Morning Edition": Ann Arbor Area Chamber of Commerce. This popular monthly program features a buffet breakfast and a series of 5-minute updates from local business and community leaders. Hosted by Michigan Theater executive director Russ Collins. Speakers TBA. Video replays posted at annarborchamber.org. *7–8:45 a.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. $30 (members, $25). Preregistration requested. 214–0104.*

★**"My Two Scents Worth: How Plants Evolved the Ability to Make So Many Aroma Compounds": U-M College of Literature, Science, & the Arts.** Lecture by U-M molecular, cellular, and developmental biology professor Eran Pichersky. Re-

ception follows. *4:10 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater (4th floor). Free. 998–6251.*

★**"The Lemon Tree: An Arab, a Jew, and a Heart of the Middle East": Ann Arbor District Library/University Musical Society.** Members of the local Arab-Jewish women's group Zeitouna lead a discussion of Sandy Tolan's award-winning novel about a friendship that develops between an Israeli woman and a Palestinian man. The first 30 registrants receive a free copy of the book. *4:30–6:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. Preregistration required. 615–0122.*

"Thanks for Giving" Benefit Dinner: Peace Neighborhood Center Fund-Raiser. Dinner and entertainment by kids involved in the center's programs. *6:30 p.m., Peace Neighborhood Center, 1111 N. Maple Rd. $100. Reservations recommended. 662–3564.*

"Wisconsin Cheese Dinner": Zingerman's Roadhouse. Roadhouse chef Alex Young is joined by Wisconsin artisanal cheesemakers and a member of the Wisconsin cheese board to host a dinner featuring recipes using Wisconsin cheeses. *7 p.m., Zingerman's Roadhouse, 2501 Jackson. $45. Reservations required. 663–3663.*

★**"Drummunity!"** Lori Fithian, a local drummer and drum teacher, leads a drum circle. Instruments provided, or bring your own. Kids welcome. Preceded at 6:45 p.m. by a brief drum lesson. *7–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore, 114 S. Main. Free. 426–7818.*

★**Book Club: Ann Arbor Jaycees.** All invited to discuss ***Songs Without Words,*** Ann Packer's novel about 2 women, lifelong friends, whose friendship is called into question when the teenage daughter of one of them gets into trouble. *7 p.m., Borders, 3140 Lohr Rd. Free. 417–3267.*

★**"The Year of the Car": Saline Area Historical Society.** MotorCities National Heritage Area executive director **Gary Familian** discusses the automotive heritage of southeastern and central Michigan. *7 p.m., Saline Senior Center, 7190 N. Maple Rd. (enter behind the middle school), Saline. Free. 944–0442.*

★**Matt Hittinger and James Shea: Shaman Drum Bookshop.** Readings by these 2 poets. Hittinger is a U-M creative writing grad now living in New York whose new book ***Pear Slip*** is a collection of poems exploring the forms and colors of things from the ordinary world in a way that evokes the example of poets like Wallace Stevens and Elizabeth Bishop, painters like Van Gogh and Cezanne, and the composer Satie. Shea is a Chicago poet whose debut collection ***Star in the Eye*** is a collection of short, direct lyrical and descriptive poems that New York poet Dean Young praises for their "calligraphic precision and flair." Signing. *7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

★**Works-in-Progress Series: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** See 5 Wednesday. Tonight: fiction readings by **Michael Schilling,** a U-M creative writing grad whose debut novel *Blood Orphans* is forthcoming from Little, Brown in 2009, and **Dave Karcynski,** a U-M creative writing grad who reads from his novel-in-progress *Kanadia,* a metaphysical picaresque set in a fictional country north of the U.S. Also, poetry reading by **T. Hetzel.** 7–9:30 p.m.

★**"Advocating for Children": Pittsfield Union Grange.** Talk by Friends of Court-Appointed Special Advocates director Nicole Huang. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by a potluck (bring a dish to pass; table service provided). *7:15 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). Free. 769–1052.*

★**Channeled Spiritual Discussion Group: Deep Spring Center.** All invited to share their spiritual and metaphysical questions with others with similar interests. The evening is led by Aaron, a "being of light" channeled by Barbara Brodsky. Aaron offers a talk on our relationship to others and to the earth. Also, socializing. *7:30–9:30 p.m., Deep Spring Center, 3003 Washtenaw, Suite 2 (building next to Arby's; entry on Glenwood). Free, but donations are accepted. 477–5848.*

★**"Third Coast Listening Room": U-M School of Art & Design.** Third Coast International Audio Festival directors host a presentation of documentary audio shorts. Followed by discussion. *7:30–9 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 2116 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

★**"Improving Wildlife Habitat in Your Backyard": Washtenaw Audubon Society.** Slide-illustrated talk by Michigan Audubon Society conservation director Thomas Funke. *7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 677–3275.*

★**Campus Symphony Orchestra: U-M School of Music.** This ensemble of nonmusic majors performs works TBA. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0594.*

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 5 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

20 THURSDAY

★**"Learning Styles": Ann Arbor Area Piano Teachers Guild.** Talk by Troy, Michigan, pianist Arvi Sinka. *9 a.m., Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 665–5346.*

"A Honey Pot of Pooh Stories": Wild Swan Theater. *Nov. 20–22.* This award-winning local children's theater presents its adaptation of some of A. A. Milne's Winnie-the-Pooh stories about a lovable teddy bear, his endless search for honey, and his stuffed animal pals who live in the Hundred Acre Wood. As with all Wild Swan productions, the performance is interpreted in American Sign Language. Audio description and backstage "touch" tours are available by prearrangement for blind audience members. Suitable for kids in grades pre-K to 2. *10:30 a.m. & 1 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets $12 (children, $8; lap passes for kids age 2 & under, $3) in advance and at the door. 995–0530.*

"The History of Cartooning": Ann Arbor City Club Renaissance Lecture Series. Talk by EMU art professor Richard Rubenfeld. Lunch. *11:30 a.m., 1830 Washtenaw. $17.50 (includes lunch). Reservations required by Nov. 19. 662–3279.*

"Tough Times: Helping Children, Families, and Those Who Serve Them Through Economic Hard Times": Washtenaw Area Council for Children. A series of 4 monthly lectures by local professionals. Today: local physician Bethany Mohr on **"Neglect: When Do You Intervene?"** Also, lunch. *Noon, Washtenaw Intermediate School District Bldg., 1819 S. Wagner Rd. $15 (students, $10) per lecture or $50 (students, $35) for the series. Reservations requested. 434–4215.*

★**"AADL.org": Ann Arbor District Library.** *Nov. 20 & 21.* Hands-on introduction to less obvious features of the AADL website, including the advantages of using My Account for placing holds, how to navigate the research tabs, and how and why to tag items. *1 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–4200.*

★**"A Taste of Thanksgiving": International Neighbors.** All area women invited to enjoy some sweet and savory Thanksgiving treats. If you have recipes you'd like to share, bring them. International Neighbors is a 49-year-old group of local women organized to welcome women from other countries during their stays in Ann Arbor. Nursery care provided for preschoolers. Refreshments. *1–2:30 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church social hall, 1500 Scio Church Rd. Free. 663–3989.*

★**"Reflecting on Our Leadership Qualities": Daughters of the American Revolution.** Talk by EMU education professor emerita Judy Williston. *1 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. 975–1976.*

★**"Communicating the Meaning of the Marshall Plan": U-M Center for European Studies "Conversations on Europe."** Talk by University of Bologna political science professor David Ellwood. *4–5:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 647–2743.*

★**Amy Hempel: U-M English Department.** *See review, p. 69.* Fiction reading by this award-winning, widely anthologized short story writer. "Every sentence isn't just crafted, it's *tortured* over," says novelist Chuck Palahniuk in describing Hempel's minimalism. "Every quote and joke, what Hempel tosses out comedian-style, is something funny or profound enough you'll remember it for years." *5 p.m., U-M Residential College Auditorium, 701 East University. Free. 615–3710.*

★**"Freedom Is the Crime Which Contains All Crimes": U-M School of Art and Design Penny Stamps Lecture Series.** Talk by **Daniel Martinez,** a Los Angeles installation artist whose provocative work explores issues of personal and collective identity. His recent *Divine Violence* features 125 golden panels that each name an international organization that uses violence for political ends. *5 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 647–2337.*

U-M Women's Basketball vs. Texas A&M. *6:30 p.m., Crisler Arena. $3 (youths under 18, $1; U-M students with ID, free). 764–0247.*

"5th Annual Ann Arbor Wine Cellar": HIV/AIDS Resource Center. Tasting of nearly 150 different bottles of wine, with epicurean hors d'oeuvres, and live music by the nationally renowned local trio of singer-songwriters **The Chenille Sisters.** Raffle of a cellar's worth of wine, with bottles donated and autographed by local politicians, artists, restaurateurs, and wine aficionados. Proceeds benefit HARC. *6:30 p.m., V2V, Kerrytown. Tickets $50 in advance, $60 at the door. Raffle tickets $10 at the HARC office (3075 Clark Rd., Suite 203, Ypsilanti), Common Language Bookstore, Spotted Dog Winery, and Trillium Real Estate. 572–9355.*

★**"Traces of the Trade: A Story from the Deep North": Ann Arbor District Library.** Screening of Katrina Browne's acclaimed 2008 documentary

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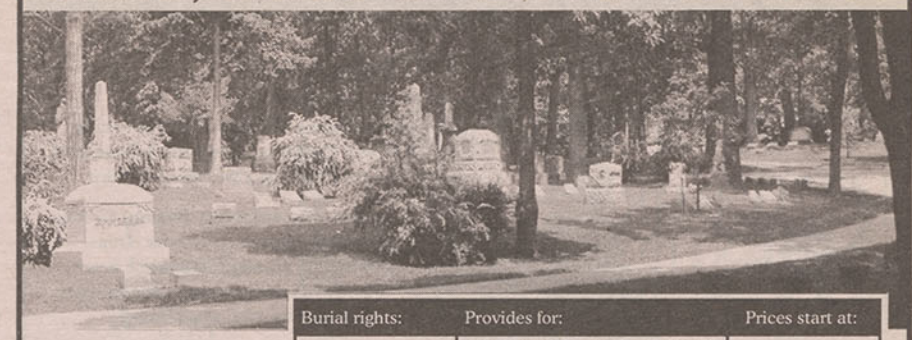

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20 THURSDAY *continued*

about the central involvement of her Rhode Island ancestors in the slave trade. *6:30–8:30 p.m., AADL meeting room (4th floor), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★**Ann Arbor Society for Origami.** All (children & adults) invited to learn about and try their hand at origami, the Japanese art of paper folding. *7–9:30 p.m., Great Oaks Cohousing Common House, 500 Little Lake Dr. (off Parkland from Jackson between Wagner & Zeeb). Free. 975–4669.*

4th Annual Holiday Gift Auction: Glacier Way West Side Cooperative Nursery. Auction of gift baskets, crafts, Disney Park tickets, services from local merchants, and more. Refreshments. Child care available by reservation. Proceeds benefit the preschool. *7 p.m. (doors open at 6 p.m.), West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh St. at Davis. Free admission. 995–0707.*

3rd Annual Fall Fund-Raiser: Ecology Center of Ann Arbor. Dinner, with beer and wine, and a talk by the renowned ecologist **Sandra Steingraber,** author of *Living Downstream: An Ecologist Looks at Cancer and the Environment* and the new memoir *Having Faith: An Ecologist's Journey to Motherhood. 7–9 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. $100 (members, $75) in advance only. 761–3186, ext. 110.*

★**"Speech & Debate": U-M Basement Arts.** *Nov. 20–22.* U-M theater student Rebecca Spooner directs Stephen Karam's comedy about 3 high school misfits researching a sex scandal involving a teacher. "That topical plot is almost window dressing," says a *New York Times* critic. "The play's real accomplishment is its picture of the borderland between late adolescence and adulthood, where grown-up ideas and ambition coexist with childish will and bravado." *7 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Studio 1, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. basement@umich.edu.*

★**"New Explorations at the Workers' Town, Giza, Egypt": Michigan Archaeological Society.** U-M museum of anthropology curator Richard Redding discusses the workers who built the Giza pyramids. *7:30 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum Paleontology Classroom, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. (248) 437–4183.*

★**"Moving Toward a More Sustainable Future: Sustainability in Financial Investments": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room Salon.** Panel discussion with CleanTech consultant Lauren Bigelow and Raymond James Financial Services financial advisor Douglas Gross. Facilitated by Lucinda Kurtz. *7:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757, 665–9160.*

"The Music Man": Rudolf Steiner High School Drama Club. *Nov. 20–22.* Rudolf Steiner students present what playwright Meredith Willson called his "valentine to a bygone era," a musical set in small-town Iowa around the turn of the last century. A traveling salesman cons the townsfolk into buying musical instruments by posing as an instructor who wants to start a band. But his plans to skip town with the cash change when he meets the town librarian. The show's many hummable tunes include "Seventy-Six Trombones," "Gary, Indiana," and "Till There Was You." *7:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner High School, 2230 Pontiac Trail. $5 (students, $3; family, $12). 669–9394.*

"Ella Minnow Pea": U-M Musical Theatre Department. *Nov. 20–23.* Scott Burkell directs U-M musical theater students in his and Paul Loesel's new musical based on Mark Dunn's best-seller about a fictional island nation off the coast of South Carolina whose citizens have gathered for the annual celebration of the native son who invented the world's most famous pangram: "The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog." When the Z falls from his memorial during the ceremony, the town council takes it as an omen and bans the letter Z from all utterances. As more letters fall and become banned, a teenage girl races to create a new pangram that will restore her country to its former glory. *7:30 p.m., Mendelssohn Theatre. Tickets $18 & $24 (students, $9) at the Michigan League Box Office in advance and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538.*

★**Arts Chorale: U-M School of Music.** John Trotter directs this ensemble of nonmusic majors in a program of love songs, from Healey Willan and Stephen Chatman art songs to North American and European folk songs. The program ends with Chatman's "Due North." *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0594.*

★**Student Woodwind Chamber Music Recital: U-M School of Music.** Music students perform works TBA. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

★**Campus Philharmonia Orchestra: U-M School of Music.** This ensemble of nonmusic majors performs works TBA. *8 p.m., U-M Music School McIntosh Theater, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

"Falling into Place": U-M Dance Department B.F.A. Concert. *Nov. 20 & 21.* An evening of original choreography by U-M dance majors **Megan DeShong, Aidan Feldman, Trina Mannino,** and **Stephanie Overton.** DeShong's group work, set to a Carlos Garcia score, explores the predicament of being trapped in a personal struggle and unable to escape, and her solo, with music by Ryan Black, experiments with the ways music and dance can influence each other. Feldman's solo is a study in physical comedy and the art of clowning, and his group work is set to music from Coltrane's *A Love Supreme*. Mannino's ensemble piece, a setting of Sufjan Stevens's experimental album *Enjoy Your Rabbit*, explores the concept of white noise and how it is translated into movement, and her solo *Root.Stem.Flower* juxtaposes the ideas of primitivism and classicism. Overton presents an anthology of 3 dancepoems performed by 7 dancers, and her solo is set to the sound of howling coyotes recorded in northern Michigan. *Note:* These shows often sell very quickly. *8 p.m., U-M Dance Bldg. Betty Pease Studio, 1310 North University Ct. $5 at the door only, beginning at 7 p.m. 763–5460, 763–5461.*

"Lend Me a Tenor": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. *Nov. 20–23.* Cassie Mann directs local actors in Ken Ludwig's comedy of errors about opening night at the fictitious Cleveland Grand Opera Company. The star, a world-famous tenor known as "Il Stupendo," arrives too late to rehearse and then passes out and is taken for dead. Another singer is persuaded to pose as him, but trouble starts when Il Stupendo comes to and tries to reclaim his role. Cast: Krishna Rangarajan, Heather Liebal, Matt Steward, Bill Charboneau, Heather Wing, Lucio Raineri, Kathleen Beardmore, and Kyle Marie. *8 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theater, Michigan League. Tickets $18 (seniors, $15; students, $10; Thurs., $13) in advance and at the door. 971–2228.*

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

"Geoffrey & Jeffrey": Performance Network Professional Season. See 6 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Joe DeVito: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Nov. 20–22. See review, p. 70.* Up-and-coming New York City comic whose act is a fast-paced blend of self-deprecating storytelling with mordantly irreverent one-liners. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; the Friday and Saturday early shows are nonsmoking. *8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. $9 (Thurs.) & $12 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $11 (Thurs.) & $14 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

21 FRIDAY

20th Annual Gaming Convention: U•Con. *Nov. 21–23.* 400–600 competitors are expected to turn out this weekend to play a wide spectrum of tabletop games, from board games of all kinds (including European family-oriented board games) and role-playing games (including some RPGA-sanctioned events) to collectible card games and miniaturized simulations of historical and fictional battlefields. A "Kid U•Con" area features a variety of games and activities for kids. Also, participants are invited to bring in their games to play in an open gaming area. Guest of honor is Looney Labs founder **Andy Looney.** Also, representatives of other game design companies are on hand to discuss and demonstrate their games. Also, a dealers' room with sale and demos of games. *Note:* People not affiliated with the U-M must arrive before 9 p.m. *10 a.m.–midnight (Nov. 21), 9 a.m.–midnight (Nov. 22), & 9 a.m.–7 p.m. (Nov. 23), various Michigan Union locations. Weekend pass $20 in advance, $25 at the door; $10 (Fri.) & $15 (Sat. & Sun.) daily admission at the door only. Also, $3 to play most games. Advance registration available on-line at ucon-gaming.org and by mail to U•Con Gaming Convention, P.O. Box 4491, Ann Arbor 48106–4491. 930–6363.*

"A Honey Pot of Pooh Stories": Wild Swan Theater. See 20 Thursday. 10:30 a.m. & 1 p.m.

★**"Christmas in the Village": Manchester Area Merchants Association.** *Nov. 21 & 22.* Downtown Manchester bustles with holiday displays and sales. Today's highlights include a **parade** (6:30 p.m.) that brings Santa down Main Street to join the village mayor in lighting the Christmas tree and a **craft sale** at 610 E. Duncan (Noon–7 p.m.). *Noon–8 p.m., downtown Manchester. Free admission. 476–4565.*

★**"The Musical Language of Desire: Emotion and Cognition in Early Modern Italy": U-M School of Music.** Talk by Columbia University music professor Giuseppe Gerbino. *5 p.m., 506 Burton Memorial Tower. Free. 764–0594.*

Avenged Sevenfold and Buckcherry: Live Nation. Double bill. Avenged Sevenfold is a southern California postpunk metal-rock quintet with hardcore tendencies, and Buckcherry is an L.A. quintet that plays gritty high-raunch rock 'n' roll in the tradition of Aerosmith, AC/DC, and Guns 'n' Roses. Opening acts are **Shinedown,** a popular Jacksonville, Florida, hard-rock quintet, and **Saving Abel,** a Mississippi alternative pop-rock quintet whose eponymous debut CD features

the hit single "Addicted." *6 p.m., EMU Convocation Center, 799 N. Hewitt (north off Washtenaw), Ypsilanti. Tickets $35 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645–6666.*

Parents' Night Out: Ann Arbor YMCA. Parents can drop off their kids ages 2–10 for dinner, games and sports, and (age 5 & older only) a dip in the pool. *6:15–10 p.m., YMCA, 400 W. Washington. $30 (members, $25). Preregistration required. 661–8012.*

★**"Peace Generator": Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth.** All invited to join a silent meditation on world peace, forgiveness, cooperation, and joy. *7–9 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. Free. 971–8576.*

Team USA: USA Hockey National Team Development Program. See 16 Sunday. Today: **Team USA Under-18 vs. Marquette Rangers** of the North American Hockey League. 7 p.m.

★**Kevin Coval: Shaman Drum Bookshop.** This Chicago hip-hop poet reads from ***Everyday People,*** his new collection of grittily realistic poems constructing a vision of Chicago through a series of snapshots of common locations and daily human interactions, from riding the train and meeting a lover to the strangers glimpsed on the bus and the people just trying to make a living any way they know how. Signing. *7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

"The Snow Queen": EMU Theater Department. *Nov. 21–23 & 30 and Dec. 5 & 6.* EMU theater professor Wallace Bridges directs EMU students in Stuart Paterson and Savourna Stevenson's musical adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen's tale of mystery, humor, and adventure. When the beautiful but sinister Snow Queen kidnaps her best friend and turns her heart to ice, a young girl embarks on a rescue journey that teaches her valuable lessons about friendship and perseverance. A family-oriented production for theatergoers age 8 & up. *7 p.m., Quirk Theater, Ford St. (off Lowell from Huron River Dr.), EMU campus, Ypsilanti. Tickets $15 (students, $12; kids age 12 & under, $6) in advance and at the door. 487–2282.*

★**"Speech & Debate": U-M Basement Arts.** See 20 Thursday. 7 & 11 p.m.

★**"Kirtan": Ann Arbor Kirtan.** All invited to join a group performance of this traditional devotional call-and-response music based on Hindu Vaishnava texts and the writings of poet/saints. Accompanied by live music based on rhythmic Indian ragas on bass guitar, tabla, and drums. *7:30 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill St. Free, but donations accepted. 761–7435.*

★**Ann Arbor Train & Trolley Watchers.** Club member Mark Hildebrandt discusses **"Scandinavian Trains in Europe"** and club member Mark Cowles discusses **"'Electrified' Electric Railways."** *7:30 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church social hall, 306 N. Division ("just up the hill from the Amtrak station"). Free. 996–8345, 971–8329.*

★**"Colonizing the Moon": University Lowbrow Astronomers.** Talk by club observatory director D. C. Moons. *7:30 p.m., 130 Dennison, 500 Church. Free. 747–6585.*

★**Remeleixo Duo: EMU Music Department.** Performance by the Ithaca College musical faculty duo of guitarist Pablo Cohen and saxophonist Steven Mauk, who specialize in the music of South America. *7:30 p.m., EMU Alexander Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

"The Greene Knight": U-M 58 Greene. This coed a cappella group performs pop songs, including Alicia Keys's "Lesson Learned," the Beatles' "All My Loving," Maroon 5's "Back at Your Door," and more. *7:30 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. $7. 763–1107.*

"The Crucible": Greenhills School. *Nov. 21–23.* Nancy Heusel directs Greenhills high school students in Arthur Miller's 1953 drama about the infamous 1692 Salem witch trials. Appearing at the height of the McCarthy era, the play was seen in its time as a thinly veiled indictment of senator Joseph McCarthy and his followers, but its enduring popularity suggests it touches on irrationalities endemic to American culture. *7:30 p.m., Greenhills School Campbell Center for the Performing Arts, 850 Greenhills Dr. (off Earhart). $10 (students, $5). 205–4057.*

"The Music Man": Rudolf Steiner High School Drama Club. See 20 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

★**Symphony Band: U-M School of Music.** Michael Haithcock conducts this music-student ensemble in Carter Pann's *Slalom,* David Rakowski's *Cantina,* Grainger's *Lincolnshire Posy,* and Wagner's emotive *Elsa's Procession to the Cathedral.* Preceded at 7:15 by a lecture by U-M student group Enharmonia. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0594.*

"An Evening of Brahms": Kerrytown Concert House. Ensembles of local and area musicians play Brahms's Sonata no. 2 in A Major, Trio in A Minor, and more. Performers include violinist **Gabriel Bolkosky,** soprano **Stephanie Clark,** cellist **Debra Fayroian,** clarinetist **Laurence Liberson,** and pianists **Michele Cooker** and **Jean Schneider.** *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15, $20, & $30. Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

Fall Concert: U-M Dicks and Janes. This coed a cappella group performs Coldplay's "Viva la Vida," John Mayer's "My Stupid Mouth," Mandy Moore's "Candy," and other pop songs. Opening act TBA. *8 p.m., East Hall Auditorium, 530 Church St. $10 (students, $5) in advance at dicksandjanes.com and at the door. 763–1107.*

Doug Stuart & Friends: Canterbury House. Local jazz bassist Stuart leads his friends in a mix of jazz, classical, folk, and funk. *8 p.m., Canterbury House, 721 E. Huron. $10 (students & seniors, $5). 764–3162.*

Chuck Brodsky: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). This North Carolina singer-songwriter's charming, humorous, incisively observed songs about the follies of ordinary people have provoked comparisons to John Prine and Loudon Wainwright. A favorite of Green Wood audiences, he has released 5 CDs on the Red House label, including *The Baseball Ballads,* a celebration of the heroes—and goats—of the national pastime, and the recent *Color Came One Day,* a collection of finely etched songs about the everyday lives of a variety of small-town characters. *8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. $12 (kids 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 662–4536, 665–8558.*

"Parade": U-M MUSKET. *Nov. 21–23.* Adam Moskal directs U-M students in Jason Robert Brown and Alfred Uhry's Tony-nominated 1999 musical based on the 1913 ordeal of Leo Frank, a transplanted Brooklyn Jew accused of the murder of a 13-year-old girl in Atlanta, Georgia. The action artfully interweaves the public spectacle of the first sensationalized "trial of the century" with the poignant private tale of the discovery of mutual love and respect in Frank's formerly lifeless marriage. The score features a vivid tapestry, filtered through a contemporary sensibility, of period marches, hymns, and blues. *8 p.m., Power Center. Tickets $13 (students with ID, $7) in advance at the Michigan League Ticket Office. 764–2538.*

"Falling into Place": U-M Dance Department B.F.A. Concert. See 20 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Lend Me a Tenor": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. See 20 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Hell's Bell": Dreamland Theater. See 7 Friday. 8 p.m.

"The Apple Tree": Dexter Community Players. See 14 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Ella Minnow Pea": U-M Musical Theatre Department. See 20 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Jack Goes Boating": Blackbird Theatre. See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

"Geoffrey & Jeffrey": Performance Network Professional Season. See 6 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Joe DeVito: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 20 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Singles Dance: Parents Without Partners. All singles invited for an evening of dancing and socializing. Recorded 70s to contemporary dance music played by DJ John Brown. Cash bar. Smoking allowed in designated areas. Preceded at 8 p.m. by free dance lessons. All encouraged to come in costume on October 31. *9 p.m.–1 a.m., Grotto Club, 2070 W. Stadium. $8 (PWP members, $6). 973–1933.*

22 SATURDAY

★**"Christmas in the Village": Manchester Area Merchants Association.** See 21 Friday. Today's highlights: a **craft sale** at the American Legion Hall (9 a.m.–4 p.m.), a bake sale and cookie walk at the Methodist church (9 a.m.–2 p.m.), a display of holiday table settings at Emanuel Church (9 a.m.–4 p.m.), horse-drawn **sleigh rides** (10 a.m.–4 p.m.), and **"Lunch with Santa"** at St. Mary's (noon–2 p.m.) 9 a.m.–6 p.m.

"More Friends! 6th Annual Holiday Gifts Show." Show and sale of bread, honey, jewelry, stained and etched glass, mixed media works, paintings, woodwork, purses, photography, pottery, and more, by 20 local artists. Refreshments. Admission benefits Faith in Action. *10 a.m.–4 p.m., Chelsea Fairgrounds, W. Old US-12 at Old Manchester Rd., Chelsea. Donation. 475–0182.*

"A Honey Pot of Pooh Stories": Wild Swan Theater. See 20 Thursday. 11 a.m.

★**"10th Annual Suicide Survivors Day Conference": Ann Arbor District Library.** A webcast (1–2:30 p.m.) of this national teleconference is followed by a Q&A with a panel of local suicide survivors. The program begins with short talks by local Survivors of Suicide support group social worker Maryjane Bottonari and American Foundation for Suicide Prevention Michigan director Tammi Landry-Gilder. Refreshments. *Noon–3 p.m., AADL*

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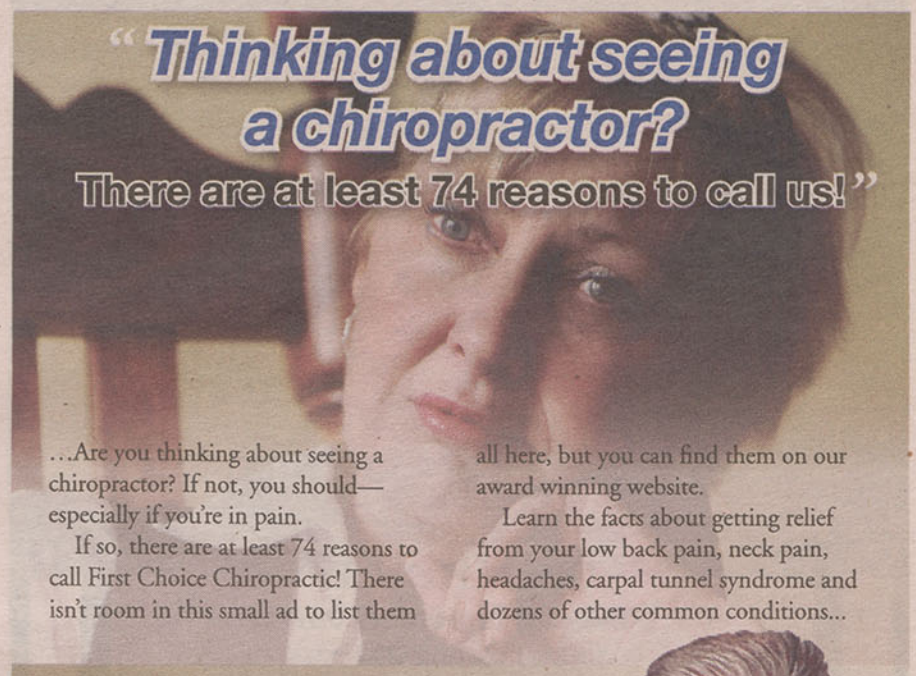

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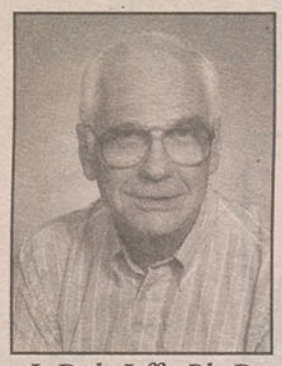

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22 SATURDAY *continued*

Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–4200.

★**"Sleeping Bear: The Legend": Barnes & Noble.** Michigan writer **Anne Margaret Lewis,** author of the best-selling *Has Anyone Seen Christmas!,* reads her children's picture book. Also, Ann Arbor Public Schools Community Education and Recreation staff present published works created by local kids who attended their summer program. *1 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

"The Snow Queen": EMU Theater Department. See 21 Friday. 3 p.m.

Team USA: USA Hockey National Team Development Program. See 16 Sunday. Today: **Team USA Under-17 vs. Mahoning Valley (Boardman, Ohio) Phantoms** (3 p.m.) of the North American Hockey League and **Team USA Under-18 vs. Marquette Rangers** (7 p.m.) of the North American Hockey League. 3 & 7 p.m.

★**Open House: University Lowbrow Astronomers.** *Nov. 22 & 29.* A chance to join local astronomy buffs for a look at the sky through instruments at the Peach Mountain Observatory. Participants are encouraged to bring their own telescopes as well. Visitors must turn off all electronic equipment (car radios, transmitters, phones, etc.) at the observatory entrance. Program canceled if sky is overcast at sunset or if the weather is extremely inclement. *5 p.m.–12:30 a.m. (as long as the sky remains clear), Peach Mountain Observatory, North Territorial Rd. (about 1¼ miles west of Hudson Mills Metropark), Dexter. Free. 332–9132.*

Thanksgiving Dinner: Chinese-American Society of Ann Arbor. Dinner and dancing to recorded music. Bring a Thanksgiving side dish to pass. Roasted turkey, cranberry sauce, sweet potatoes, and pie provided. Beverages. *6–10 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. $5 (families, $10; members, free). Reservations required. 996–1440, 255–5506.*

"Music on the Menu": County Connection Sweet Adelines. This 55-voice local Sweet Adelines women's chorus presents a dinner show featuring a varied program that ranges from the Martina McBride country hit "In My Daughter's Eyes" to the Sylvia Fine standard "Lullaby in Ragtime." Also, performances by the local barbershop quartet **Chordiology,** the current district champions. *2 & 6:30 p.m., UAW Local 898 Hall, 8975 Textile Rd. (west of Rawsonville Rd. off I-94), Ypsilanti. Tickets $20 (students & seniors, $15) in advance at countyconnectionchorus.org and at the door. 480–8843.*

"Kids Night Out!": Jewish Community Center. All kids ages 5–10 invited for dinner, robot-inspired games, and a showing of ***Wall•E,*** Andrew Stanton's animated sci-fi film about a robot, designed to clean up a polluted Earth that's been evacuated by human beings, who falls in love with another robot named Eve. *6:30–10 p.m., JCC gym, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $22 (members, $18), $18 (members, $16) for each additional sibling. Reservations required. 971–0990.*

★**"Speech & Debate": U-M Basement Arts.** See 20 Thursday. 7 p.m.

"The Crucible": Greenhills School. See 21 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

"The Music Man": Rudolf Steiner High School Drama Club. See 20 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

"Swoon and Drench": Dreamland Theater. Monologues by **Amanda Krugliak,** a local performance artist who specializes in fictitious memoirs. Opening acts are **The Gentlemen Pirates** and Detroit comic **Ken Brown.** *7:30 p.m,, Dreamland Theater, 26 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. $5. 657–2337.*

4th Saturday Contra Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Caller Ed Vincent with music by the Golden Griffon Stringtet. No partner needed. All dances taught. Beginner lessons at 7:30 p.m. Wear a costume or cool, casual clothes, and bring flat, smooth-soled shoes for dancing. *8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). $9 (members, $8; students, $5). 730–6919.*

International Folk Dancing. Dancing to recorded music. The program begins with a dance lesson. *8–11 p.m., Gretchen's House, 2625 Traver. $3–$5 (students, $1–$3) donation. 995–0011.*

★**Baroque String Chamber Orchestra: Early Music Ensemble (U-M School of Music).** Edward Parmentier leads this student ensemble in works by Georg Muffat, Handel, Charles Avison, and Francesco Geminiani. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

Women's Glee Club: U-M School of Music. Julie Skadsem directs this ensemble of nonmusic students in a program of James Gordon's "Frobisher Bay," Veljo Tormis's "Lauliku Lapsepoli," Moses Hogan's "Music Down in My Soul," Stephen Paulus's "Sing Creations Music On," Richard Kidd's "Wind Song," Vincent Persichetti's *Winter Cantata,* Jerry Harris's "Music When Soft Voices Die," and Josef Rheinberger's "Adoramus te" and "Ave vivens hostia." *8 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Tickets $10 (students with ID, $5) in advance at wgctickets@umich.edu and (if available) at the door. 764–0583.*

"Parade": U-M MUSKET. See 21 Friday. 8 p.m.

"The Apple Tree": Dexter Community Players. See 14 Friday. 2 & 8 p.m.

"Geoffrey & Jeffrey": Performance Network Professional Season. See 6 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Ella Minnow Pea": U-M Musical Theatre Department. See 20 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Jack Goes Boating": Blackbird Theatre. See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

"Lend Me a Tenor": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. See 20 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Joe DeVito: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 20 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

23 SUNDAY

★**"Late Fall Manchester Breakfast Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** Fast/moderate-paced 60-mile ride to the Knights of Columbus Hall in Manchester for an all-you-can eat breakfast provided by the Boy Scouts. *9 a.m., Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 434–3097.*

"Skrabbel for Cheaters Board Game Tournament": 826michigan Fund-Raiser. 2-person teams play Scrabble for donations. The more money teams raise, the more "cheats" they earn, such as the right to add an X to any word. Spectators welcome. *Noon–6 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. Free admission. To register, see 826michigan.org. 761–3463.*

U-M Women's Basketball vs. Vanderbilt. *Noon, Crisler Arena. $3 (youths under 18, $1; U-M students with ID, free). 764–0247.*

★**"Game On with the Vault": Ann Arbor District Library.** All 6th-graders through adults invited to learn to play some popular European-style family games with Vault of Midnight game experts. *1–4 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

Billy Jonas: The Ark. Family concert by this self-styled "junkadelic folk" singer-songwriter from Asheville, North Carolina, whose songs set witty, verbally playful lyrics to a blend of African, hip-hop, and juke-joint vocal rhythms. He accompanies himself on guitar and a variety of found objects, including pots, pans, and a pogo stick. *1 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $10 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

★**"Coming to America: Research with Passenger Ship Lists": Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County.** Talk by Library of Michigan genealogy coordinator Kris Rzepczynski, who also discusses **"Research with Naturalization Records."** *1:30 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center auditorium, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off E. Huron River Dr. at Clark Rd.). Use parking lot P and look for the club's signs. Free. 483–2799.*

★**Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild.** All invited to listen to guild members swap stories or bring their own to tell. *2–4 p.m., Nicola's Books, Westgate shopping center. Free. 971–5763.*

"The Crucible": Greenhills School. See 21 Friday. 2 p.m.

"Lend Me a Tenor": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. See 20 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Parade": U-M MUSKET. See 21 Friday. 2 p.m.

"Ella Minnow Pea": U-M Musical Theatre Department. See 20 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 2 p.m.

"Geoffrey & Jeffrey": Performance Network Professional Season. See 6 Thursday. 2 p.m.

★**Orpheus Singers: U-M School of Music.** This music-student ensemble performs Handel's *Ode on the Death of Queen Caroline* and *As Pants the Heart. 3 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 2116 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

"Echoes of the British Isles": Ann Arbor Civic Chorus. Rebecca Vlisides directs this popular local amateur chorus in English, Irish, Welsh, and Scottish songs, along with some Alfred Burt Christmas carols. *3 p.m., Forsythe Middle School Auditorium, 1655 Newport Rd. Donation. 904–6289.*

"The Snow Queen": EMU Theater Department. See 21 Friday. 3 p.m.

Children's Puppet Shows: Dreamland Theater. See 16 Sunday. 3:30 p.m.

★**Dexter Community Orchestra.** Don Parrish conducts the orchestra in a program highlighted by a performance of Haydn's Violin Concerto no. 1 in C Major featuring violinist **Katie VanDusen.** Also, Gabrieli's *Canzon Duodecimi Toni,* the Polka and Fugue from the 20th-century Romanian composer Jaromir Weinberger's folk opera *Shvanda,* and Liszt's *Les Preludes. 4 p.m., Dexter Center for the Performing Arts, Dexter High School, 2200 N. Parker (south off Shield from Baker Rd.), Dexter. Free. 426–2734, 355–0725.*

★**Trombone Ensemble: U-M School of Music.** This music-student ensemble plays works by Bach, Eugene Bozza, Strauss, and Fisher Tull. Also, the world premiere of David Sampson's *Changewater Suite. 4 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

★**Shmuel Ashkenasi: Friends of Chamber Music at Pease.** This former Vermeer Quartet 1st violinist is joined by Chameleon Arts Ensemble of Boston clarinetist Kelli O'Connor and local pianist Zhihua Tang, a member of the new Fu-Xi Piano Trio. Program: Dvorak's *Four Romantic Pieces for Violin and Piano,* Brahms's Sonata for Violin and Piano no. 1 in G Major, Copland's Sonata for Clarinet and Piano, and Stravinsky's *L'Histoire du Soldat* suite for violin, clarinet, and piano. *4 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 484–3237.*

★**Society of Women Engineers Book Club: Liberty Borders.** All invited to join a discussion of ***The Tipping Point,*** Malcolm Blackwell's theory of how small ideas and behaviors mushroom into major phenomena. *6–8 p.m., Borders cafe, 612 E. Liberty. Free. 668–7652.*

★**14th Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service: Interfaith Round Table of Washtenaw County.** Music, readings, and meditations by local representatives from many faith traditions. All encouraged to donate dry goods or money for those in need. Refreshments. *7–8 p.m., Church of the Good Shepherd, 2145 Independence Blvd. (off Packard). Free. 424–1535, 662–3654.*

★**Michigan Youth Jazz Improvisation: U-M School of Music.** This high school ensemble plays a program TBA. *7 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

Fall Concert: Ann Arbor Cantata Singers. Warren Puffer Jones directs this polished semiprofessional local ensemble in Bach's Magnificat, Haydn's Te Deum, and Mozart's Regina Coeli. *7 p.m., Bethlehem United Church of Christ, 423 S. Fourth Ave. $10 (students & seniors, $8) in advance, $12 (students & seniors, $10) at the door. 996–8867.*

"Pops Forward to the Past": U-M Michigan Pops Orchestra. Christopher Roundtree conducts this 100-member ensemble, the only student-run orchestra on campus, in Bach's Toccata and Fugue in D Minor, Respighi's *Pines of Rome,* and Bernstein's *Symphonic Dances from West Side Story,* along with selections from *Back to the Future* and *Indiana Jones. 7 p.m., Michigan Theater. $8 (students, $5; Ann Arbor public school & day care students, free) in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office and at the door. 763–TKTS.*

★**"Beethoven: The Sonata Obsession": U-M School of Music.** U-M music students perform the 15th in a 2-year series of concerts featuring Beethoven's complete sonatas. The program includes the *Kreutzer Sonata,* Sonata in A Major for Cello and Piano, and Piano Trios nos. 5 & 6. *8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 2116 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

24 MONDAY

★**Michigan Youth Ensembles: U-M School of Music.** Performances by high school ensembles directed by U-M music faculty. Julie Skadsem conducts the Michigan Youth Women's Chorale, Paul Rardin conducts the Michigan Youth Chamber Singers, Rodney Dorsey conducts the Michigan Youth Band, and Anthony Elliott conducts the Michigan Youth Symphony Orchestra. The wide-ranging program is highlighted by Paul Carey's "Alley Cat Love Song," Haydn's "The Heavens Are Telling," a South African folk song, Dello Joio's *Variants on a Medieval Tune,* and Debussy's *Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun. 7 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0954.*

★**Jazz Concert: Greenhills School.** Neil Donato conducts Greenhills student jazz ensembles in a program TBA. *7:30 p.m., Greenhills School Campbell Center for the Performing Arts, 850 Greenhills Dr. Free. 769–4010.*

★**Student String Quartet Recital: U-M School of Music.** Chamber recital by quartets of U-M performance majors. Program TBA. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

★**Biakuye: U-M School of Music.** Traditional African music and dance by this ensemble of Ghanaian and African American performers. *8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 2116 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

25 TUESDAY

★**"Science for All Ages": Ann Arbor District Library.** Hands-on science and engineering experiments and interactive demos for all ages presented by U-M students from the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers and Proyecto Avance: Latino Mentoring Association. *6:30–7:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, lower level, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–8301.*

★**Renaissance Dances: Bedlam.** Beginning to experienced dancers invited to try English country dances, 15th- and 16th-century Italian dances, bransles, pavanes, almans, and more. Instruction provided. Wear comfy clothes and shoes. *7–11 p.m., Michigan League Koessler Room. Free. 971–1809.*

★**Chamber Choir: U-M School of Music.** Jerry Blackstone conducts this music-student ensemble in Copland's *In the Beginning* and works by Brahms, Vaughan Williams, William Byrd, Mendelssohn, David Conte, Bartok, and Nestor. *8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 2116 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

U-M Men's Basketball vs. Norfolk State. *8:30 p.m., Crisler Arena. $15 & $22. 764–0247.*

26 WEDNESDAY

★**"Community Sing-Along": Ann Arbor District Library.** Local musicians Betsy Beckerman and Sara Melton Keller lead kids (grade 4 & up), adults, and seniors in singing old favorites, along with some new songs. *1–2 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–4200*

★**"Thanksgiving Centerpiece": Ann Arbor District Library.** All kids from preschoolers to 3rd-graders invited to make a table centerpiece for Thanksgiving dinner. Materials provided. *2–4 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–4200.*

10th Anniversary Alumni Reunion: The Neutral Zone. All teens and former Neutral Zone attendees invited to hear music and poetry by local performers. With award-winning slam poet **Molly Raynor,** DJ **Nick Ayers,** and bands TBA. *7 p.m., The Neutral Zone, 310 E. Washington. $10. 214–9995.*

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 5 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

27 THURSDAY (Thanksgiving)

★**"Thanksgiving Democratic Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** The assembled riders determine the ride's pace and destination. All invited. *10 a.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 904–6431.*

28 FRIDAY

★**"Turkey Burnoff Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** The assembled riders determine their own pace, distance, and destination. *10 a.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 904–6431.*

★**"Himalayan Bazaar in My Garage": Of Global Interest.** *Nov. 28 & 29.* Show and sale of a range of Nepali gift items, gathered by local adventure tour company owner Heather O'Neal. *10 a.m.–4 p.m., 120 Eighth St. Free. 369–3107.*

★**"Cup Stack Attack": Ann Arbor District Library.** All kids in grades K–5 invited to see how fast they can make a stack of cups. *2–3 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"Revolution Hero": Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to compete in tournaments playing either **Dance Dance Revolution,** a computer-guided movement game, or **Guitar Hero,** a music video game. Prizes. *6–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Roomful of Questions": The Side Door Gallery.** Local doll maker, illustrator, and writer **Tracy Gallup** discusses her new book and shows ink drawings from it and some of the handmade dolls featured in her books. Refreshments. Signing. *6–8 p.m., The Side Door Gallery, 8063 Main St., Dexter. Free. 426–1581.*

U-M Women's Volleyball vs. Indiana. *7 p.m., Cliff Keen Varsity Arena, S. State at Hoover. $5 (youths age 17 & under, $3). 763–2159.*

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featuring Sandra Steingraber

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2008
7:00 - 9:00pm, Book signing to follow
Washtenaw Community College
Morris Lawrence Building
4800 East Huron River Drive, Ann Arbor

Ecologist, author, cancer survivor, and internationally renowned expert on the environmental links to cancer and health, Dr. Sandra Steingraber, PhD is the author of the highly acclaimed *Living Downstream: An Ecologist Looks at Cancer and the Environment* and *Having Faith: An Ecologist's Journey to Motherhood.*

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Stephanie Feldstein at 734.761.3186 ext.110
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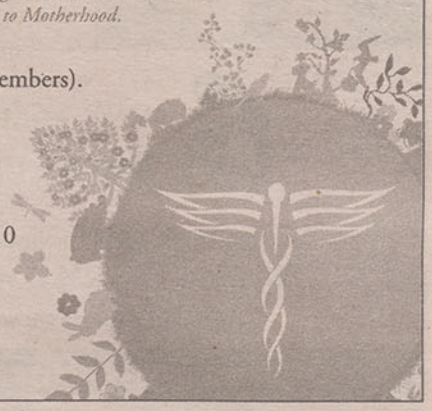

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28 FRIDAY *continued*

★"Festive Friday Holiday Nights": Main Street Area Association. *Every Fri. through Dec. 19.* Local entertainers stroll the sidewalks beneath trees twinkling in 100,000 Christmas lights, with many stores open late. Live entertainment TBA. Also, Santa's Mailbox is accepting letters (postage to North Pole courtesy of the MSAA) Nov. 21–Dec. 19 at 332 S. Ashley (in front of Red Shoes). *7–9 p.m., downtown area bounded by Main, Liberty, Washington, and Fourth Ave. Free. 668–7112.*

Heywood Banks: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Nov. 28–30.* Heywood Banks is the stage name of Howell native Stuart Mitchell, a very animated comedian known for his silly musical spoofs, goofy prop humor, and sight gags. Since adopting the nerdy, quietly psychotic Banks persona in the mid-80s, he has risen from a regional favorite to a national star. A longtime local favorite—he even played a few shows at Rick's American Cafe in his pre–Comedy Showcase days—he is making his 9th annual Thanksgiving weekend appearance. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *Note:* The 7 p.m. shows tonight and November 30 are **all-ages shows** (youths 16 & under must be accompanied by a parent). The early shows each night are nonsmoking shows. *7 & 9:30 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. $17 reserved seating in advance and general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

"Luau Skate": Ann Arbor Parks Department. All invited to skate to Hawaiian music. Prizes for best Hawaiian costume. *7:15–8:45 p.m., Veterans Ice Arena, 2150 Jackson Rd. $5 (youths age 17 & under & seniors age 60 & over, $4). Skate rentals available ($3). 761–7240.*

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Geoffrey & Jeffrey": Performance Network Professional Season. See 6 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

29 SATURDAY

21st Annual Handspinners' Holiday Fair: Spinners' Flock. Handmade and one-of-a-kind woven goods and fiber-art items, including knitted, woven, and felted clothing, along with hats, mittens, dolls, ornaments, wall hangings, toys, and hundreds of skeins of handspun yarns. Also, spinning equipment and books for sale. Members offer spinning demonstrations throughout the day. Door prizes. *10 a.m.–4 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free admission. Wheelchair-accessible. 769–1657, 662–6366.*

★"Wonderful and Unusual Gifts": Nature's Expressions. *Nov. 29 & 30.* Show and sale of crystalline mineral specimens, fossils, shells, mounted butterflies and insects, and more. Includes a complete fossil skeleton of a 9-foot, 100,000-year-old cave bear. *11 a.m.–5 p.m., 3443 Daleview Dr. (off N. Maple Rd. north of Huron River Dr.). Free. 994–3048.*

"World Music Tour": Performance Network Children's Theater Network. Pinckney musician **Guy Louis** presents a multicultural children's concert, with performances on Renaissance lute, sitar, tamboura, tabla drums, a Native American drum, African drums and percussion instruments, and electric guitar. *11 a.m., Performance Network, 120 E. Huron. Tickets $10 (youth age 16 & under, $7) in advance at performancenetwork.org & by phone, and at the door. For reservations or to charge by phone, call 663–0681.*

★"Super Smash Kart Championship Series": Ann Arbor District Library. All kids in grades 6–12 invited to compete in the 4th of 6 monthly tournaments for single players and teams of 4–5 players of Mario Kart Double Dash and Super Smash Brothers Melee video games. Prizes. *Noon–5 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–8301.*

U-M Men's Basketball vs. Savannah State. *2 p.m., Crisler Arena. $15 & $22. 764–0247.*

★LezRead Book Club. All invited to discuss ***Legacy of Love,*** Marianne Martin's romance novel about an androgynous, confident woman who is attractive to all women except the one she wants the most. *4–6 p.m., WRAP Resource Center, 319 Braun Ct. Free. 663–0036.*

U-M Women's Volleyball vs. Penn State. *7 p.m., Cliff Keen Varsity Arena, S. State at Hoover. $5 (youths age 17 & under, $3). 763–2159.*

★"Trek to Everest Base Camp": Of Global Interest. Local adventure tour guide Heather O'Neal gives a slide-illustrated talk about the 3-week expeditions she charters to Nepal and the Everest base camp. *7–8:30 p.m., 120 Eighth St. Free. 369–3107.*

5th Saturday Thanksgiving Dance. Don Theyken calls English dances (7–8:30 p.m.) and contras (8:30–11 p.m.) to music by Dr. Grangelove. No partner needed; beginners welcome. Wear cool, casual clothes and comfy, flat, smooth-soled shoes. *7–11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). $12. 484–9964.*

Heywood Banks: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 28 Friday. 7 & 9:30 p.m.

Jeff Daniels & Company: Big Pickle Productions. Playwright and Purple Rose Theatre founder Daniels, who is also a prolific folk-style singer-songwriter, hosts an evening of music by an array of acts from around the state, performing separately and together, with an emphasis on songs celebrating Michigan. Performers include the inventive local country-rock band **The Ragbirds,** the versatile Lansing Americana string quartet **Steppin' in It,** the gospel choir **BASIC,** and the **Ben Daniels Trio,** a rootsy acoustic folk-rock trio from Chelsea led by singer-songwriter and guitarist (and Jeff's son) Ben Daniels. *8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $27.50–$75 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"Hell's Bell": Dreamland Theater. See 7 Friday 8 p.m.

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Geoffrey & Jeffrey": Performance Network Professional Season. See 6 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

30 SUNDAY

★"Last Sunday Brunch Ride of 2008": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. 22-, 29-, 40-, 60-, and 70-mile rides, at various speeds, to the Lighthouse Cafe in Dexter for breakfast. *10 a.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 996–4985.*

Annual Southeast Michigan Train Show and Sale: Rails on Wheels. Huge display and sale of vintage and modern model trains and equipment, both scale (exact) and tinplate (approximate). Check out Rails on Wheels' realistic giant layout buzzing with trains traversing interconnected "modules" of different terrains, including a treacherous mountain, an old-timey town, and a rural creek. Kids can try their hand at running trains on a kids track. Sale of railroadiana. Lunch available. *10 a.m.–4 p.m., Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Admission $3 (children age 12 & under, free with an adult). 994–9872.*

9th Annual Holiday Show: Art in the Barn. Show and sale of handmade items from 25 local artists, including jewelry, painting, clothing, photography, ceramics, and more. *10 a.m.–5 p.m., The Yellow Barn, 416 W. Huron. Free admission. 834–2488.*

★PL2: Public Library Pokemon League: Ann Arbor District Library. All kids in grades K–5 invited to bring a Nintendo DS and a copy of Pokemon Diamond or Pearl to compete for prizes. *1–4 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–8301.*

Gemini's Annual Benefit for Mott Children's Hospital: The Ark. Family concert featuring 4 local parent-and-child combinations. Gemini, the popular local acoustic duo of twin brothers Sandor and Laszlo Slomovits, is joined by San's 14-year-old daughter, fiddler Emily Rose Slomovits, who was treated in the neonatal intensive care unit at the U-M Mott Children's Hospital. Also, Wild Swan Theater codirector **Sandy Ryder** is joined by her daughter Abby for a theater performance, nationally renowned local storyteller **Laura Pershin** presents a storytelling program with her daughter Emma, and local country-flavored pop-folk singer-songwriter **Billy King** is accompanied on vocals by his mother Cathy. The show opens and closes with joint performances featuring all the performers. *1 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $10 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"Apartment 3A": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 2 p.m.

"Geoffrey & Jeffrey": Performance Network Professional Season. See 6 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"The Snow Queen": EMU Theater Department. See 21 Friday. 3 p.m.

Children's Puppet Shows: Dreamland Theater. See 16 Sunday. 3:30 p.m.

★"Turkey Trek": Of Global Interest. Local adventure tour guide Heather O'Neal leads a 5-mile hike from the Old West Side neighborhood to the Huron River and back, with a potluck dinner at picnic tables along the way. Bring a dish to share (or Thanksgiving leftovers), your own beverages, and water. Table service provided. *4–8 p.m., meet at 120 Eighth St. Free. 369–3107.*

★"3rd Annual Tree Lighting Festival": Kerrytown Market and Shops. Santa lights the tree. Also, caroling and luminarias. *5:30 p.m., Kerrytown Market & Shops courtyard. Free, 662–5008.*

Heywood Banks: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 28 Friday. 7 p.m.

Music at Nightspots

by John Hinchey

Listings are based on information available at press time. Last-minute changes are always possible, so it's advisable to call ahead. Unless otherwise noted, live music runs from 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

Jay Stielstra is at Old Town Nov. 9.

Arbor Brewing Company

114 E. Washington **213–1393**

This downtown brewpub features occasional live music, 9 p.m.–midnight unless otherwise noted. Cover, no dancing. **Nov. 15: "Beer, Men, & Song."** In-the-round performances by veteran Nashville singer-songwriter **Phil Dillon** and local singer-songwriters **Bill Edwards, John Latini,** and Channel 7 (WXYZ TV) news anchor **Stephen Clark.** Followed by an open mike for local singer-songwriters. 7–9 p.m.

The Ark

316 S. Main **761–1451**

Michigan's leading showcase for American and international performers of all forms of traditional music almost every night at 8 p.m., Mon.–Sat., & 7:30 p.m., Sun. Unless otherwise noted, tickets are sold in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. **Nov. 2: "The Doyle & Debbie Show."** *See review, p. 44.* The duo of Bruce Arntson and Jenny Littleton has developed a rabid cult following in Nashville over the past year and a half for weekly performances of this parodic revue, a collection of original songs embedded in a wickedly funny script affectionately lampooning country music's iconic duos and the battle of the sexes bubbling under the surface of their music. $20. **Nov. 5: Open Stage.** All acoustic performers invited. Fifteen acts are selected randomly from those who sign up to perform 8 minutes (or 2 songs) each. The most talented and popular Open Stage performers are offered their own evenings at the Ark. $3 (members & students, $2). 7:30–10 p.m. **Nov. 6: Amos Lee.** *Sold out.* Highly regarded young acoustic folk-rock singer-songwriter from Philadelphia. Opening act is L.A.-based pop-folk singer-songwriter **Priscilla Ahn. Nov. 7: Willy Porter.** Pop-folk singer-songwriter from Milwaukee who gets most attention for his intricately virtuosic acoustic guitar playing. His music blends roots-pop with elements of funk and country, and his songs span a wide range of moods, from the trucker-inspired "Jesus on the Grille" and the girl-in-the-diner ode "Glow" to the erotic mysticism of "Watercolor." A favorite with local audiences. $17.50. **Nov. 8: Richard Shindell.** A former bandmate of John Gorka in the Razzy Dazzy Spasm Band, Shindell burst onto the national scene in 1992 with *Sparrow's Point,* a widely acclaimed LP that included "Kenworth of My Dreams," a song Ramblin' Jack Elliott has called one of the best truck songs he's ever heard. "Like Bruce Springsteen and Lucinda Williams, he dwells on big, often difficult moments in the lives of ordinary people. By staying with them even as he flies into metaphor, he maintains equanimity," says *New York Times* music critic Ann Powers. His latest CD, *South of Delia,* is a collection of covers whose highlights include Dylan's "Senor," Woody Guthrie's "Deportee," and Springsteen's "Born in the U.S.A." $20. **Nov. 9: Martin Sexton.** *Sold out.* Acclaimed young singer-songwriter and virtuoso guitarist from Boston. **Nov. 11: Ray Bonneville.** Blues and country-rock guitarist and harmonica player from Montreal known for his raspy, laid-back vocals. Tonight he showcases material from his new CD, *Goin' by Feel.* $15. **Nov. 12: Open Stage.** See above. **Nov. 13: Jackopierce.** Pop-rock originals by this recently reunited singer-songwriter duo from Dallas, Texas, known for their well- crafted, literate songs and lyrical melodies. They have a new CD, *Promise of Summer.* $20. **Nov. 14: Saffire—The Uppity Blues Women.** Sassy, soulful, and occasionally raunchy acoustic blues by this acclaimed trio of middle-aged women whose repertoire ranges from classic blues by the likes of Ma Rainey and Big Mama Thornton to traditionally styled originals. Members are guitarist and pianist Ann Rabson, guitarist and harmonica player Gaye Adegbalola, and upright-bassist Andra Faye. $20. **Nov. 15: Enter the Haggis.** Popular young Toronto quintet whose music is a rousing, raucous blend of Scottish and Canadian Celtic music with rock, bluegrass, Caribbean, and world music. Instrumentation includes fiddle, bagpipes, tin whistle, guitars, keyboards, and drums. $15. **Nov. 16: Four Bitchin' Babes.** An evening of alternately hilarious and poignant songs about the joys and dilemmas of contemporary life presented by this popular troupe of singer-songwriters. The current lineup is Sally Fingerett, Debi Smith, Deirdre Flint, and Nancy Moran. $22. **Nov. 17: William Fitzsimmons, Slow Runner, and Caitlin Crosby.** Triple bill of acts that first gained attention via their MySpace pages. Fitzsimmons is a Pittsburgh-bred acoustic folk-rock singer-songwriter whose songs have been featured on *Grey's Anatomy* and other TV soundtracks, and Slow Runner is a pop-rock trio led by singer-songwriter and pianist Michael Flynn. Crosby is a soulful pop-folk singer-songwriter from Hollywood. $13.50. **Nov. 18: The Subdudes.** Revamped lineup of this recently reunited roots-rock band from New Orleans whose gospel-flavored vocal harmonies, limber rhythmic verve, and blues- and country-inspired lyrical sensibility often provoke comparisons to Little Feat and the Band. Led by its original songwriters, guitarist Tommy Malone and accordionist John Magnie, the band has an acclaimed new CD, *Street Symphony.* $25. **Nov. 19: Cadillac Sky.** *See review, p. 55.* Ann Arbor debut of this innovative young Texas quintet that plays a brash, loud, wildly intricate brand of postpunk progressive bluegrass that WKDF Radio (Nashville) calls "the most innovative and original sound since the first notes of bluegrass passed Bill Monroe's lips." The band's new CD *Gravity's Our Enemy* was released on Ricky Skaggs's Skaggs Family label. Opening act is **Hardline Drive,** a progressive bluegrass band from Lake Orion. $15. **Nov. 20: Ingrid Michaelson.** *Sold out.* Indie pop-rock singer-songwriter. Opening acts are **Newton Faulkner** and **David Ford.** $20. **Nov. 21: Dick Siegel.** Veteran local singer-songwriter Siegel is an immensely gifted and versatile composer whose songs offer all sorts of immediate musical and lyrical pleasures, both serious and comic, as well as a resonant staying power. His live repertoire features material from his nationally acclaimed 2002 CD *A Little Pain Never Hurts* and his pugnacious 2003 EP *Fighting for King George.* Also, new songs like "Tumbling Down," a song about the 9/11 attack in New York, as well as early hits like "Angelo's" and "When the Sumac Is on Fire," the theme song of tonight's concert—not to mention one of the best songs about Michigan ever written. He performs tonight in an acoustic ensemble that includes himself and Brian Delaney on guitar and Dave Roof on bass, trumpet, and harmony vocals. $15. **Nov. 22: Susan Werner.** Talented young singer-songwriter known for a jazz-inspired, classically trained vocal style she describes as "pop illiterate," Werner writes incisive, vividly imagined songs in a variety of moods. Werner's recent CDs include *I Can't Be New,* a collection of piano-based, songbook-styled songs, and *The Gospel Truth,* a collection of songs surveying contemporary attitudes toward the church. The songs on it range from neotraditional bluegrass gospel and hand-clapping rousers to sharply observed comic songs to an up-tempo call-and-response number wondering whether there's a God at all. $17.50. **Nov. 23: Claudia Schmidt.** A longtime favorite with Ark audiences, Schmidt sings in a strikingly luminous, warmly ingratiating voice that has been described as "clear as a supper bell, strong as 3-day-old tea." Her repertoire includes intimately personal original songs and a mixed bag of traditional and contemporary folk, blues, and jazz tunes. Her concerts have also always featured a sprinkling of anything from bawdy poems to satirical monologues. She accompanies herself on 12-string guitar, dulcimer, and other folk instruments. $15. **Nov. 25: Frontier Ruckus.** Experimental bluegrass sextet from Lake Orion fronted by singer-songwriter Matthew Milia that recently released its debut CD, *The Orion Songbook.* FREE. **Nov. 28: Matt Watroba.** WDET *Folks like Us* host Watroba presents his annual post-Thanksgiving concert, a program of lyrical songs and poignant ballads, including several originals. Watroba sings in a sweet tenor voice, accompanying himself on guitar and punctuating his performance with sharply humorous observations. This show usually features several guest musicians. $15. **Nov. 30: James Hunter.** English R&B singer-songwriter and guitarist with a smooth, tight, deliciously full vocal style that draws on Jackie Wilson, Sam Cooke, Ray Charles, and other classic 50s R&B singers. "James is one of the best voices, and best-kept secrets, in British R&B and soul," says Van Morrison. "An anomaly in 2006 with its mini sax section and sparse, danceable songs, the album nonetheless shimmers with hip-shaking grooves," says *All Music Guide* critic Hal Horowitz in his review of Hunter's 2006 CD *People Gonna Talk.* "Although the disc is decidedly retro, it exudes classy, cool fun that feels timeless." $20.

The B-Side

310 E. Washington **214–9995**

This all-ages venue in the Neutral Zone teen center features a mix of touring, local, and teen bands, usually Sat., 7–10 p.m. Cover, dancing. **Nov. 1: "Skaloween."** With the pop-punk ska bands **The Echoes, A Wasted Four Chords, The Space-Based Adventure,** and **Losers like Me.** Cover discount for those in costume. **Nov. 15: 42nd Parallel.** Local teen classic rock band. Opening acts are **Hollow Point,** the **Ultrasounds,** and other local teen bands. **Nov. 22: Red Leader.** Ypsilanti rock quartet. Opening acts are Neutral Zone MCs TBA and other bands TBA. A benefit for Darfur.

The Blind Pig

208 S. First St. **996–8555**

This local music club features live music 5 nights a week, with a varied assortment of local and out-of-town rock 'n' roll, blues, reggae, and dance bands, 10:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m. (unless otherwise noted). Also, occasional early shows, usually 7–10 p.m. Karaoke on Mon.; closed most Sun. If there's an opening act, the headliner usually goes on stage between 11:30 p.m. and midnight. Cover (except "Showcase Night"), dancing. If advance tickets are sold, they are available at the Michigan Union Ticket Office and all other Ticketmaster outlets. **Nov. 1: Dungen.** Swedish psychedelic folk-rock quartet. Opening act is **Headdress,** a Texas trance duo. Advance tickets: $12 ($14 at the door). **Nov. 4:** Closed. **Nov. 5: Needtobreathe.** South Carolina alternative rock quartet. Opening act is **September On,** an Ypsilanti pop-rock quartet. Advance tickets: $12 ($14 at the door). 9 p.m.–12:30 a.m. **Nov. 6: Love Meets Lust.** Ferndale New Wave electro-rock trio. Opening acts are **Charlie Slick,** a local electro-pop singer-songwriter, and **Millions of Brazilians,** a Taylor postpunk pop-rock trio. **Nov. 7: Arbor Soul Club.** Classic soul music by the local DJ duo of Brad Hales and Robert Wells. **Nov. 8: Nomo.** Local 9-piece ensemble that plays a mix of Afrobeat with Sun Ra– and Coltrane-influenced jazz. The band recently released its Ubiquity Records debut, *New Tones.* Advance tickets: $10. **Nov. 11: "Showcase Night."** With 4 different young local bands. **Nov. 12: Hadag Nachash.** *All ages admitted.* Israeli band whose music blends hip-hop, funk, and reggae. **Nov. 13: Devin the Dude.** Houston, Texas, hip-hop MC. Opening act is the **Coughee Brothaz,** a Houston hip-hop ensemble. Advance tickets: $13. **Nov. 14: The Great Lakes Myth Society.** Local folk-rock sextet whose music is an eclectic mix of Appalachian music, prog-rock, and sea shanties. Led by singer-songwriter-guitarists Tim and Jamie Monger, who also play accordion and mandolin, respectively. The band recently released its 2nd CD, *Compass Rose Bouquet.* Opening acts are **The Mighty Narwhale,** a Grand Rapids progressive pop-rock septet, and **Frontier Ruckus** (see The Ark). **Nov. 15: Starling Electric.** Retro-psychedelic orchestral pop by this local quartet led by singer-songwriter Caleb Dillon. Opening acts are **Pop Project,** a Detroit-area indie pop-rock quartet, and **Precise Hero,** a Detroit hip-hop/nu-jazz MC know for what *The Record* magazine reviewer Marcus Carr calls "fearless lyrical dexterity." **Nov. 18: MC Chris.** *All ages admitted.* Rochester, Michigan, hip-hop MC. Opening acts are **Totally Michael,** a pop-rock singer-songwriter from Bloomington, and **Jesse Dangerously,** a hip-hop MC from Ottawa. Advance tickets: $10 ($12 at the door). 8 p.m.–midnight. **Nov. 19: Prince Poe.** Hip-hop MC, a member of the Brooklyn, New York, hip-hop collective Organized Confusion. Opening acts TBA. **Nov. 20: Brendan James.** New Hampshire–bred New York City pop-folk singer-songwriter and pianist. Advance tickets: $10. 9 p.m.–12:30 a.m. **Nov. 21: The Dirtbombs.** Detroit postpunk garage band. Opening acts are **Friendly Foes** (see Elbow Room) and **Electric Fire Babies,** a Detroit experimental New Wave soul trio. Advance tickets: $10 ($12 at the door). **Nov. 22: The Bang!** Dance party with this local DJ collective that plays garage and 70s rock. **Nov. 25: "Showcase Night."** See above. **Nov. 26: Macpodz.** Immensely popular local jam band that plays an invigorating mix of R&B, soul, rock, and hard jazz it calls "disco bebop." Opening act is **Topher Mohr,** a local Steely Dan–style rock ensemble led by former Funktelligence guitarist Mohr. **Nov. 27:** Closed. **Nov. 28: The Blue Rubys.** Local almost-all-female country-rock quintet. Opening acts are **Bull Halsey,** a Chelsea garage blues band, and **Gregory Stovetop,** a veteran local postpunk pop-folk singer-songwriter whose influences include Tom Petty and Bob Dylan. **Nov. 29: Wildcatting.** Ypsilanti metal-rock band. Opening acts are the Athens, Georgia, popstpunk band **The Howlies,** the Detroit electropop glam band **Champions of Breakfast,** and the local postpunk rock band **Old Names.**

Cavern Club

210 S. First St. **332–9900**

This downtown club in the Celebration Cellars basement banquet space features live music on Sat., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Also, the Millennium Club, a street-level club at the same address, features DJs 10 p.m.–2 a.m. on

JULIAN KONWINSKI

blues

The Chris Canas Blues Revolution

A young master plays "Blues, Brews, & BBQs"

If Chris Canas isn't livin' the blues, he sure knows how to channel it. This guitarist and singer, with jazz training from the Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts, recorded his first blues CD at seventeen. Now twenty-four, he says he wants to bring the blues to a younger generation—but any generation can appreciate the stunning maturity of his sound.

With a warm, wet singing voice that is not at all affected, he delivers the traditional repeated blues lines with force and heartbreak. He can growl his way through a sexy original song where he compares succulent thighs to sweet potatoes and then serve up a falsetto ballad reminiscent of Smokey Robinson.

But it's when his guitar starts to sing that his talent really transcends his age. Canas understands how to communicate the electric blues. No mere mimic, he clearly has command of his instrument, coaxing a tight, saw-toothed sound for solos that don't wander but continually surprise. He sneaks in a little wah-wah, or even a touch of Hendrix style, but not for the sake of showing off. He plays what is appropriate to the song, even if we hadn't realized that was what the song needed.

On top of all that, Canas has written a couple dozen blues originals, with titles like "Big Bone Woman" and "Hard Times," that showcase his considerable talent. And he's put together a band of veterans, including Shane Rasmussen on keyboards and Kevin Schoepke on bass, who not only underpin his musicianship but bring their own funk and groove to the party. Chris's mother, Angela Cottingham, sings backup vocals, creating the lovely blend you would expect.

The Chris Canas Blues Revolution has a deep repertoire, covering soul classics like "The Thrill Is Gone" and gig standards like "Dock of the Bay" when I saw the group on a Friday night at Guy Hollerin's. Canas and his band are regulars at this Holiday Inn–based bar's "Local Blues, Brews, & BBQs" series on Fridays, 5:30–8:30 p.m., and Saturdays, 8 p.m.–midnight. This concept, sponsored by WEMU and produced by local promoter Peter Andrews (who helped plan the earliest Ann Arbor Blues & Jazz Festivals), is intended for an older crowd who still want to party but prefer to do so a little earlier and with a little less drunken stupidity.

The setting doesn't offer the best acoustics for the quality local talent, but that didn't stop people from getting down on the huge dance floor as the Blues Revolution gave its all. It was a friendly atmosphere where strangers struck up conversations and Chris's toddlers danced with their mom. The Chris Canas Blues Revolution returns to Guy Hollerin's on Friday, November 14.

—Stephanie Kadel-Taras

Nov. 1, 7, 8, 22, & 29. **Nov. 1: "Halloween Dance Party."** With a DJ TBA. $250 prize for best costume. **Nov. 8 & 29: Killer Flamingos.** Rock 'n' roll covers and originals by this popular, veteran band from Dearborn.

The Circus

210 S. First St. 913–8890

This bar located on the top floor of the Cavern Club building features live music Wed.–Fri., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Thurs. & Nov. 1, 21, & 28: "Live Rock 'n' Roll Karaoke."** Karaoke with prerecorded rhythm tracks, and live guitars and keyboards by the Hartland trio **Double Take.**

Club Above

215 N. Main 663–7758

This dance club on the top floor of the Heidelberg restaurant features live music or DJs Tues. & Thurs.–Sun., 9:30 p.m.–2 a.m., and live happy hour bands on Fri., 5:30–8:30 p.m. Also, karaoke on Wed., 9 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover, dancing. Age 21 *&* over only unless otherwise noted. **Every Mon.: "Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is Mondays."** Hip-hop and freestyle music with **DJ Skee and MC West Knyle. Every Tues.: "College Tuesdays."** DJs play a variety of dance music. No cover. **Every Thurs.** (except Nov. 20 & 27)**: "The Mash-Up."** DJ Just-B spins electro, funk, hip-hop, reggae, rock, and 80s music. **Every Fri.: Latino Night.** DJ Xcess plays salsa, merengue, reggae, and other Latin dance records. Also, salsa lessons, 9–10 p.m. **Every Sun.:** Dance music with a DJ. **Nov. 1: Autumn Coma.** Flint experimental progressive-rock band. Opening acts are the Detroit psychedelic rock quartet **Vox Maui,** the Flint experimental progressive rock band **Collectively Unconscious,** and the local electro-folk-pop band **Wild Years. Nov. 7** (5:30–8:30 p.m.)**: FUBAR.** 6-piece band led by Kingpins bassist Randy Tessier and featuring former Map of the World vocalist Sophia Hanifi. Their repertoire is an eclectic mix of originals by Hanifi and Tessier and covers of everyone from the Everly Brothers, the Kinks, and the Yardbirds to Miles Davis, Steve Earle, and U2. The band has a 4-song minidisk, *Clean House,* an election-year collection that includes 2 originals, a cover of Stephen Stills's 1967 protest classic "For What It's Worth," and an original setting of Auden's 1939 poem "Refugee Song." **Nov. 8: Boywife.** Punk-rock band from Ypsilanti whose music draws on Chinese pop, Japanese classical music, and Mexican regional music. Opening act TBA. **Nov. 14** (5:30–8:30 p.m.)**: Steve Newhouse & the Nuke-a-billies.** Veteran local classic country and country-rock band led by singer-guitarist Newhouse. With guitarist Kevin Brown, bassist Chris Goerke, and drummer Eric Nyhuis. **Nov. 15:** TBA. **Nov. 20: "Girl Bar in Ann Arbor."** Ladies night with dance music by a DJ. **Nov. 21** (5:30–8:30 p.m.)**: Mike Smith & the Cadillac Cowboys.** Veteran local country band led by singer-guitarist Smith. **Nov. 22: Aleph-1.** Local progressive electroacoustic trip-hop band. Opening act TBA. **Nov. 28** (5:30–8:30 p.m.)**: Drivin' Sideways.** Veteran local band fueled by vocalist Pontiac Pete Ferguson's alternately soulful and ornery vocals. Their country-based repertoire still features lots of classic honky-tonk, but they also cover everything from Chuck Berry and Johnny Burnette to the Beatles and James Brown. The band's guiding presence seems to be Elvis—including both large chunks of his repertoire and his attitude that any music he did suited him just because he did it. The band also includes guitarist George Bedard, bassist Chris Goerke, drummer Mark Newbound, and keyboardist Jim King. **Nov. 29:** TBA.

Common Cup

1511 Washtenaw 327–6914

This coffeehouse run by the University Lutheran Chapel features live music and other entertainment Fri., 8–9 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Nov. 7: Steve Rich Revue.** Local acoustic quartet led by singer-guitarist Rich that blends storytelling with songs. **Nov. 14: White Raven.** Local keyboard-based pop rock band lead by the sibling duo of Will and Amy Bennett and featuring veteran drummer Muruga Booker. **Nov. 21: Dan Murray.** Old-time music, vintage bluegrass, and prewar blues by this local guitarist and banjoist.

Conor O'Neill's

318 S. Main 665–2968

Downtown Irish pub with live music Sun. (7:30–10 p.m.), Thurs. & Sat. (9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m.), & occasional other nights, and a DJ on Fri., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. **Every Sun.: Traditional Irish Session.** All invited to join or listen to an instrumental jam session. Followed at 10 p.m. by karaoke. **Every Thurs.: Jerry Sprague Band.** Roots-rock band led by veteran local singer-guitarist Sprague. **Every Fri.: DJ Big Daddie. Nov. 1: Joshua & Jeremy Sprague.** An eclectic mix of rock covers by Jerry Sprague's 2 sons. **Nov. 8: The Witch Doctors.** This local blues and R&B band led by singer-guitarist Thayrone, best known as the host of the nationally syndicated *Bone Conduction Music Show,* plays what Thayrone calls "way-strong mojo, ritualistic barroom blues healing." **Nov. 15: Kris K Trio.** Local trio led by singer-guitarist Kris Kurzawa that plays jazz, soul, and avant-funk covers and originals. **Nov. 22: The Terraplanes.** Local band led by singer-guitarist Jerry Mack that plays a mix of houserocking blues, uptown swing, soulful R&B, and roots rock. The band has a CD, *Well Tuned.* With guitarist Dave Fero, saxophonist James Morse, keyboardist Jim Merte, bassist Al Kalaf, and drummer Mike Adams. **Nov. 29: Toppermost.** Local blues-rock quartet.

Crazy Wisdom Tea Room

114 S. Main 665–9468

This tea room above Crazy Wisdom Bookstore features live music occasional Fri. & Sat., 8:30–10:30 p.m. **Nov. 1: Steve Kovich.** Detroit singer-songwriter. **Nov. 7: Michael Beauchamp.** This local folk-style acoustic postpunk singer-songwriter with a strong, mournful voice is joined by several friends to perform songs from his recent debut CD, *My Northern Voices.* **Nov. 8: Dale Osborn.** Leo Kottke–style singer-guitarist from Chelsea who performs tasty covers and originals. **Nov. 14: Diane Kimball.** Local folksinger. **Nov. 15: Venice Gas House Trolley.** A trio of Madison spoken-word artists who set their poems to rhythmically driving music in an eclectic mix of idioms, from high-lonesome country, funk, and garage rock to avant-garde jazz and ambient music. **Nov. 21: Partly Brothers.** Detroit-area acoustic folk-rock singer-songwriter duo. **Nov. 22: Dave Boutette.** Local folk-rock singer-guitarist whose genial songs about the small ups and downs of ordinary life draw on a range of influences from Chuck Berry to Paul Westerberg. **Nov. 28: Timothy Monger.** High lonesome originals by this engaging singer-songwriter-guitarist from the Great Lakes Myth Society. **Nov. 29: White Raven.** See Common Cup.

Creekside Grill and Bar

5827 Jackson Rd. 827–2737

The intimate basement bar area of this restaurant in Scio Township features occasional live music. Cover, dancing. **Nov. 30: II-V-I Orchestra.** Veteran local big band, led by saxophonist David Swain, that plays late-1930s swing and 1940s R&B. 6:30–9 p.m.

Dreamland Theater

26 N. Washington
Ypsilanti 657–2337

This downtown Ypsilanti theater, relocated from Depot Town, features live music Thurs. & occasional other nights, 9–11 p.m. or later. Cover (usually a donation), no dancing. **Nov. 8: Liquid Music Ensemble.** Ypsilanti experimental ambient band. Opening acts are 2 other Ypsilanti ambient ensembles, **Moon Elves** and **Compartment. Nov. 13: I Love You.** Punk-dub band from Kansas City. Opening acts TBA. **Nov. 15: Patrick Elkins.** Ypsilanti singer-songwriter whose shows also include performance art, poetry, and finger-puppetry. Opening act is **Lord of the Yum Yum,** the stage name of Chicago musician Paul Velat, who, performing in a blue ruffle tuxedo, reshapes familiar tunes with classical and jazz themes, singing them to electronic accompaniment in a guttural scat vocal style that occasionally morphs into throat singing. Also, other bands TBA.

Elbow Room

6 S. Washington, Ypsilanti 483–6374

This Ypsilanti tavern features live music and/or DJs Mon.–Thurs., 9 p.m.–1 a.m., and Fri. & Sat., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Also, occasional Sun., 8 p.m.–midnight. No cover ($5 suggested donation), dancing. **Every Thurs.** (except Nov. 27)**: "Mofo Karaoke."** With "the standard karaoke playlist crap plus 2,500+ obscure and awesome songs." **Nov. 1: Lightning Love.** Local keyboard-driven minimalist pop trio. Opening acts are the Ferndale indie powerpop trio **Friendly Foes,** the Chicago alternative rock quartet **Holding Mercury,** and **Timothy Monger** (see Crazy Wisdom). **Nov. 2: Old Man Underground.** DJ duo that plays an incendiary mix of garage, punk, hip-hop, indie, metal, glam, and rock 'n' roll. **Nov. 5: Oppfor.** Detroit electro-industrial band. Opening acts are **Whore in Babalon,** an electro-industrial trio from South Bend, and **Geist ex Bibliotecha,** a Detroit experimental ambient duo. **Nov. 7: Great Lakes Myth Society.** See Blind Pig. Opening acts are **The Muggs,** a Downriver band that plays straight-ahead rock 'n' roll, and **Scarlet Oaks,** a Detroit quartet that plays soulful country-rock. **Nov. 8: Matt Jones.** Local pop-folk singer-songwriter. Opening acts are **The Robot Needs Sleep,** an Ypsilanti ambient-shoegazer band, and **Jura,** an experimental ambient-shoegazer trio from Dearborn. **Nov. 9: Patrick Elkins.** See Dreamland. Opening acts are **Justin Clifford Rhody,** a low-fi pop-folk singer-songwriter from Indiana, and **Caethua,** an experimental Celtic-style pop-folk singer-songwriter from Washington. **Nov. 11: Direct Hits Mod Club.** DJ collective that plays vintage British pop and soul. **Nov. 12: Ben Daniels Trio.** Rootsy acoustic folk-rock trio from Chelsea led by singer-songwriter and guitarist Daniels. Opening acts are **The StereoFidelics,** an acclaimed young jazz-rock duo from Asheville, North Carolina, and **Slower Dollars,** an Ypsilanti indie folk-rock band. **Nov. 14: Mazinga.** Veteran Ypsilanti band that plays rough, raw, Detroit-style rock 'n' roll. Opening acts are **Invader,** a local hardcore band, and **Jehovah's Witness Protection Program,** a local acoustic pop-folk band. **Nov.**

15: Champions of Breakfast. See Blind Pig. Opening acts are **Edie Sedgwick,** a transgendered electropop singer-songwriter from New York, and **Carjack,** a Detroit robo-punk one-man band. **Nov. 16: Old Man Underground.** See above. **Nov. 18: "The Cycle."** DJs Blakguts and Joe Vargas spin funk, soul, and indie dance records. **Nov. 19: Gregory McIntosh.** Local pop-folk singer-songwriter. Opening acts are **Drunken Barn Dance,** a local experimental alt-country and folk-rock band fronted by Scott Sellwood of Saturday Looks Good to Me, and **Elliot Street Lunatic,** a Lansing alternative rock band. **Nov. 21: Chris Bathgate.** Local singer-songwriter who writes heartfelt, poetic story songs in a variety of moods. Opening acts are the Detroit psychedelic punk-folk singer-songwriter **Alan Scheurman,** the Nashville folk-rock duo **Quote,** and the local indie folk-pop band **Nathan K. Nov. 22: Red, White, & Booze.** 1980s metal tribute band. Opening acts are **Downtown Brown,** a Detroit postpunk metal-funk trio, and **Intergalactic Ghetto Blasterz,** a Dearborn Heights electro-punk hip-hop trio. **Nov. 25: "Club Fit."** Indie rock dance party with DJs Ayron Michael Nelson and Louis P. **Nov. 26: "Mofo Karaoke."** See above. **Nov. 28: Koffin Kats.** Detroit-area psychobilly punk band. Opening acts are **The Questions,** a Detroit experimental rock band, and another band TBA. **Nov. 29: Misty Lyn & the Big Beautiful.** Local country-pop band led by singer-songwriter Lyn. Opening acts are **Matt Jones & the Reconstruction,** a local pop-rock band led by singer-songwriter Jones, and **The High Strung,** a Brooklyn, Michigan, trio that plays dark, crafty pop with psychedelic overtones. The band won praise from *Rolling Stone,* which cited its "gift for nervy, agitated melodies that get under your skin as much as they make you hum along." **Nov. 30: Old Man Underground.** See above.

The Firefly Club

637 S. Main **665–9090**

Jazz and blues club, named Best Metro Detroit Jazz Club by the *Detroit Free Press,* that recently moved to a new location next to South Main Market. Live jazz Mon., 8 p.m.–midnight; occasional Tues., 8–10 p.m.; occasional Wed., times TBA; Thurs., 8–11 p.m.; Fri. & Sat., 9 p.m.–1 a.m.; and Sun., 8:30 p.m.–12:30 a.m. Also, happy-hour music Thurs., 4–7 p.m., and Fri. & Sun., 5–8 p.m. Sun. jazz brunch, 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Cover (unless otherwise noted), dancing. **Every Fri.** (5–8 p.m.)**: Easy Street Swingtet.** Dixieland and swing by this local ensemble led by saxophonist and trumpeter Paul Klinger. **Every Sun.** (5–8 p.m.)**: Phil Ogilvie's Rhythm Kings.** This local 10-piece big band is one of the few to specialize in the old-time big-band music of the late 1920s and early 1930s associated with Jelly Roll Morton and King Oliver. Arrangements by the renowned early-jazz pianist James Dapogny and tubaist Chris Smith. The rest of the lineup includes 3 saxophonists/clarinetists, 2 trumpeters, a trombonist, a guitarist/banjo player, and a drummer. **Every Sun.: "Elevation."** Funk and hip-hop by DJ Graffiti and other DJs TBA. Also, an open mike session. **Every Mon.: Paul Keller Orchestra.** Award-winning 15-piece big band led by bassist Keller and featuring vocalist (and Firefly Club owner) Susan Chastain. Followed at 11 p.m. by a **jazz jam session. Every Thurs.: Los Gatos.** Mambos and cha-chas by this local Latin jazz band that specializes in the music of Cal Tjader, the late San Francisco vibes player who ignited the 1950s mambo craze. Led by drummer Pete Siers, the group also includes vibes player Cary Kocher, bassist Kurt Krahnke, pianist Brian DiBlassio, and percussionist Jonathan Ovalle. Preceded at 7 p.m. by Latin dance lessons ($5 includes cover for the band). 8–11 p.m. **Nov. 1: Harper.** Blues-rock band led by Peter Harper, a blues singer-songwriter from Australia, recently transplanted to Grass Lake, who plays blues harp and didgeridoo. The band has an acclaimed CD on the Blind Pig label, *Down to the Rhythm.* **Nov. 7: Eastern Blok with Goran Ivanovic.** Nationally acclaimed Chicago-based Balkan fusion quartet led by guitar virtuoso Ivanovic whose music blends jazz, classical, and East European folk music with an explosive rock edge. **Nov. 8: "Swing Night."** With a swing dance band TBA. **Nov. 11: Lonesome County.** Hard-driving traditional bluegrass by this Michigan quintet, led by singer-guitarist Chad Jeremy, that won the 2006 Renfro Valley Bluegrass Talent Contest. With mandolinist Kevin Frank, banjoist Lee Kaufmann, fiddler Marty Somberg, and bassist Paul Shapiro. 7:30 p.m. **Nov. 14: Paul Keller Ensemble.** High-energy mainstream jazz by this ensemble led by bassist Keller that features 3 horns. Tonight the band celebrates the release of its new CD *The Michigan Jazz Suite,* a collection of 15 Keller compositions inspired by Michigan people, places, and icons. **Nov. 15: "Flamenco Night."** With the flamenco dance troupe **Al-Flamenco.** 8 p.m.–midnight. **Nov. 18: Ken Peplowski.** Jazz ensemble led by this renowned Cleveland-bred clarinet virtuoso known for his rich tone and deep swinging style. Advance tickets: $20. 7:30 & 9:30 p.m. **Nov. 21: Pete Siers Quartet.** Jazz ensemble led by this veteran local drummer. **Nov. 22: Leigh Daniels Ensemble.** This versatile local jazz ensemble led by bassist Daniels performs a mix of contemporary, classical, and jazz works, including many pieces by Daniels. With violist Leslie DeShazor Adams, vibraphonist Sean Dobbins, pianist Buddy Budson, drummer George Davidson, trombonist Terry Kimura, violinist Judith Teasdle, violinist and mandolinist Brad Phillips, cellists Nancy Millen and Katri Ervaama, and vocalist, flutist, and percussionist Kathy Moore. A benefit for the Firefly Club. 8 p.m.–midnight. **Nov. 28: The Rick Roe Trio.** Award-winning local jazz trio led by pianist Roe. **Nov. 29: Tumbao Bravo.** Cuban jazz quintet led by local saxophonist and flutist Paul VornHagen and percussionist Alberto Nacif. With pianist Sven Anderson, bassist John Barron, and Javier Barrios on timbales. Tonight the band celebrates the release of its 3rd CD, *Un Systema Para Todo.*

Goodnite Gracie

301 W. Huron **752–5740**

Martini and cigar bar below Live at PJ's lounge. Live jazz Wed.–Sat., 9:30 p.m.–1 a.m. Also, karaoke on Tues. Cover Thurs.–Sat. only, no dancing. **Every Wed. & Thurs.: Laith Al-Saadi.** An eclectic mix of jazz, blues, R&B, Motown, and pop, including many originals, by a trio led by this local singer-guitarist. **Nov. 1: Nick Strange Trio.** Popular local jazz-rock fusion dance band whose music draws variously on blues, reggae, calypso, and other idioms. With guest vocalist Jessica Oberholtzer. **Nov. 7: Michael May & the Messarounds.** Jazz-inflected blues and blues-rock by this veteran local quartet led by vocalist and blues harpist May. **Nov. 8: Count Bracey & the Pleasure Tones.** Detroit blues band. **Nov. 14: The Terraplanes.** See Conor O'Neill's. **Nov. 15: Grievous Angel.** Detroit-area country-rock band that covers everyone from Hank Williams to the Grateful Dead and Metallica. **Nov. 21: Michael May & the Messarounds.** See above. **Nov. 22: The Alligators.** R&B and blues band from Detroit. **Nov. 28: Laith Al-Saadi.** See above. **Nov. 29: Lester Blues.** Local guitar-based blues band.

Guy Hollerin's

3600 Plymouth Rd. **769–9800**

The restaurant in the North Campus Holiday Inn features music on Fri., 5:30–8:30 p.m., & Sat., 8 p.m.–midnight. Cover, dancing. **Nov. 1: Lady Sunshine & the X Band.** Local gospel-flavored blues band led by Lady Sunshine, a fiery, rich-voiced singer whose style is something of a cross between Aretha Franklin, Koko Taylor, and Denise LaSalle. **Nov. 7: The Bluescasters.** Veteran local blues and blues-rock quartet. **Nov. 8: Harmonica Shah & His Detroit Blues Band.** Chicago-style blues by band led by veteran Detroit blues harpist Shah. **Nov. 14: Chris Canas & the Blues Revolution.** *See review, p. 82.* Detroit blues band fronted by Canas, a young blues vocalist and virtuoso guitarist. **Nov. 15: The Saints.** Detroit pop-rock band that specializes in classic Motown. **Nov. 21: The Jeff Williams Group.** Toledo blues and soul quintet led by guitarist Williams and featuring vocalist Isis Ardrey. **Nov. 22: George Bedard & the Kingpins.** Superfine honky-tonk dance tunes from swing to vintage blues, country, rockabilly, and early rock 'n' roll classics, with some memorable originals penned by guitar genius Bedard. With drummer Rich Dishman and bassist Randy Tessier. The band has released 3 acclaimed CDs and is working on an all-instrumental CD that includes "Swing Minor 65," Bedard's surf-music adaptation of a Django Reinhardt tune. **Nov. 28: Doug Deming & the Jewel Tones.** Traditional postwar blues, jump blues, and barroom swing by this acclaimed Detroit quartet led by singer-guitarist Deming. **Nov. 29: Jimmy McCarty & Mystery Train.** Popular rockabilly and roots-rock band led by veteran Detroit guitarist McCarty.

The Habitat Ultralounge

3050 Jackson Rd. **665–3636**

The lounge at Weber's Inn features dance bands Tues.–Thurs., 8:45 p.m.–12:30 a.m., and Fri. & Sat., 8:45 p.m.–1:30 a.m. Also, solo piano by **Tim Knapp** (Tues.–Thurs., Sat., & Sun.) and **Adam Riccinto** (Fri.), 6–8:45 p.m. Dancing, no cover. **Every Mon.: "Monday Groove."** With DJ Mechial White. 7 p.m.–midnight. **Nov. 1: X-Factor.** Dance band. **Nov. 4–6: Dave Hamilton.** Solo singer-guitarist. **Nov. 7 & 8: Starfarm.** 1970s to contemporary rock covers by this East Lansing quintet led by vocalist Andrea Bingham and singer-guitarist Dan Malnar. **Nov. 11–13: X-Factor.** See above. **Nov. 14: 50 Amp Fuse.** Very popular 70s and 80s classic rock by this Detroit band. **Nov. 15: Remedy.** Detroit dance band. **Nov. 18–22: Soulstice.** Hard-driving horn-fueled funk dance band from East Lansing. **Nov. 25: Herbie Russ.** Solo saxophonist. **Nov. 26: 50 Amp Fuse.** See above. **Nov. 28 & 29: Bugs Beddow Band.** Versatile horn-driven R&B, boogie-rock, blues, and jazz ensemble led by veteran Detroit trombonist Beddow.

The Halfass

Church St. entrance to East Quad **764–8558**

Informal student-dominated cafe, also known as the Halfway Inn. Occasional live music, 9 p.m.–1 a.m. Cover, dancing. **Nov. 27: The Decks.** Detroit indie rock band. Opening acts are **The Javelins,** a Detroit indie rock trio, and **Silent Years,** an emo-rock quartet from Berkley, Michigan.

Live at PJ's

102 S. First St. **752–5740**

This jazz lounge features live music and DJs Thurs.–Sat., 9 p.m.–2 a.m. Karaoke on Mon. Cover, dancing. **Every Thurs. "Throwback Thursdays."** DJ spins old-school dance records. **Nov. 1: Halloween Party.** With a DJ TBA. **Nov. 7: "Dance Night."** With a DJ D. Rex. **Nov. 8: "Dance Night."** With DJ Nick Mixwell. **Nov. 14: "Grooveleague."** With DJ Daraja. **Nov. 15: "Dance Night."** With DJ Nick Mixwell. **Nov. 21, 22, & 28: "Dance Night."** With DJ D. Rex. **Nov. 29: "Grooveleague."** With DJ Daraja.

Melange Subterranean Bistro

314 S. Main **222–0202**

The lounge in this downtown restaurant features live music or DJs Thurs.–Sat., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Dancing, no cover. **Every Thurs.: Lucas Paul Band.** Local quartet led by pop-rock singer-songwriter Paul. **Every Fri.: DJ Zu.** With a variety of dance music. **Every Sat.: "The Groove-Matist."** Retro, Top 40, and hip-hop dance party with DJ Mechial White.

The Necto

516 E. Liberty **994–5436**

This popular dance club features local and national DJs 4 nights a week, Mon. & Thurs.–Sat., 9 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover (Thurs.–Sat. after 10 p.m. only), dancing. **Every Sun.: "Vision Sunday."** Guest DJs spin house and techno records. **Every Mon.: "Factory."** DJ Jinx spins industrial, goth, and synth pop records. Also, drum 'n' bass records with DJ Bassline in the Red Room. **Every Thurs.: "College Night."** DJ Hardy spins Top 40 and hip-hop records. **Every Fri.: "Pride."** DJ Jaces spins high-energy dance tunes in the main room. In the downstairs Red Room, DJ Mark plays retro music videos and DJ John G spins Top 40 records. In the Blue Room, DJ Mike spins techno records. **Every Sat.: "Frequency."** In the main room DJ Hardy plays Top 40 and dance music records.

Old Town

122 W. Liberty **662–9291**

This downtown corner bar features live music Sun. & occasional other nights, 8–10 p.m. No dancing, no cover. The performers are usually accompanied by various drop-in friends. **Nov. 2: Jo Serrapere.** Highly regarded local singer-songwriter known for her spare, haunting ballads and blues and her sinewy, commanding vocals. She is accompanied by guitarist **John Devine. Nov. 9: Jay Stielstra.** Folk-country originals by this highly regarded veteran local singer-songwriter. He is accompanied by vocalist **Judy Banker** and dobro player **John Sayler. Nov. 16: Joshua Davis.** Americana folk-rock originals by this Steppin' in It frontman. **Nov. 23: Anna Ash & the Family Tree.** Acoustic pop-folk band led by this ethereal-voiced local singer-songwriter who writes reflective songs about emotions and nature, accompanying herself on banjo, baritone ukulele, and toy piano. She has a highly regarded new CD, *Hello Friend (from Bird Above).* **Nov. 30: Kevin Meisel.** Local folk-rock singer-songwriter who specializes in narrative ballads.

Oz's Music Environment

1920 Packard **662–8283**

This storefront next to Oz's music store features live music Tues., Thurs., & occasional other nights, 7:30–9:30 p.m. (unless otherwise noted). Cover, no dancing. **Nov. 4: "Songwriters Open Mike."** All songwriters invited. Hosted by Jim Novak. **Nov. 11: "Anything Goes Open Stage & Song Circle."** All musicians invited. Hosted by Laura MacKimmie. **Nov. 18: "Originals Only Open Stage."** All acoustic musicians invited. Hosted by Oz, aka Steve Osburn. Advance sign-up required. **Nov. 25: "AASC Blues Highway 101."** Mickey Richard and Sue Nordman host a mostly acoustic blues jam session. All musicians invited.

The Quarter Bistro

300 S. Maple **929–9200**

This west-side restaurant features live music Thurs. & Fri., 6–9 p.m., and Sat., 7–10 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Fri.: The Groove-Matist.** See Melange. **Every Sat.: Mike Moore.** Jazz guitarist. **Every Thurs.: Steven Springer.** Roots-rock, reggae, dancehall, and calypso by this former Trinidad Tripoli Steel Band singer-guitarist, winner of 4 consecutive Detroit Music Awards for Best Guitar Player. Some weeks, Springer is joined or replaced by jazz pianist **John Hobart.**

Rick's American Cafe

611 Church **996–2747**

This campus-area club features DJs Tues. & Thurs.–Sat., 10 p.m.–1:30 a.m., with a set by a live band on Fri., 10–11:30 p.m. Large dance floor. Dancing, cover. **Every Tues., Thurs., & Sat.: DJ Equinox.** DJ spins dance records **Every Fri.:** Live bands TBA, followed by **DJ Sneak.**

TC's Speakeasy

207 W. Michigan
Ypsilanti **483–4470**

This downtown Ypsilanti tavern features an open mike Mon. eve. & Thurs. happy hour and dance bands Thurs.–Sat., 9:30 p.m.–2 a.m. Karaoke on Tues. Dancing, cover. **Every Fri.** (5:30–8:30 p.m.)**: Roz.** Local solo pianist. **Every Mon.: Open Mike Jam.** All musicians invited. **Every Thurs.** (6–9:30 p.m.)**: "Happy Hour Acoustic Sessions."** Popular local rock 'n' roll singer-songwriter **John Latini** hosts an acoustic open mike. Sign-up begins at 5:30 p.m. **Nov. 1: Sik Sik Nation.** Local psychedelic-blues garage trio. Opening acts are **Fallsway Downs,** an Ypsilanti acoustic rock band led by singer-songwriter and guitarist Jess Klein, and **Gunday Monday,** a local grindcore-reggae septet. **Nov. 5: "She Bang!"** Ladies night with **Keevan's Karaoke. Nov. 7: The OffRamps.** Plymouth postpunk power-pop band with a mordant lyrical sensibility. Opening acts are **Minor Planets,** a local neo-new wave band, and **Chatham,** a Detroit rock band. **Nov. 8: Year of the Pig.** Detroit metal-rock band. Opening acts are **Incisor,** a local metal-thrash trio, and **Wastelander,** a Lansing hardcore band. **Nov. 12: "She Bang!"** Ladies night with entertainment TBA. **Nov. 14: Sik Sik Nation.** See above. Opening acts are the Detroit pop-rock trio **Almost Free,** the Ypsilanti electro-pop trio **Night Shall Eat These Girls and Boys,** the local acoustic pop-folk band **The Hardy Mums,** and local folk-rock singer-songwriter **JGraves. Nov. 15: Paradime.** Popular Detroit hip-hop ensemble. Opening acts are **Nikki P,** a local hip-hip MC, and **Illlitirit,** a Milan drum 'n' bass hip-hop trio. **Nov. 19: "She Bang!"** Ladies night with entertainment TBA. **Nov. 21: Bitter Inks.** Ypsilanti acoustic pop-rock trio. Opening acts are **My Biography,** a local pop-punk band, and **Dan Tedesco,** a folk-rock singer-songwriter from Chicago. **Nov. 22: Pillar of Autumn.** Detroit classic rock band. Opening acts are **Andreyka,** a local posthardcore ambient quartet, and another band TBA. **Nov. 26: "She Bang!"** Ladies night with **Spag Burlesque,** a Detroit troupe with a variety of burlesque and sideshow acts, along with punk glam records by **DJ Spag. Nov. 28: September On.** Ypsilanti pop-rock quartet. Opening acts are **Not Another Hero,** and Lansing pop-rock trio, and another band TBA. **Nov. 29: Rootstand.** Local band whose music blends bluegrass, blues, reggae, and Celtic folk idioms and instrumentation. Opening acts TBA. ■

Classifieds

Employment

The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

Live-in Innkeeper's Assistant: English-style inn, U-M campus area, room and board and stipend. Must haves: driver's license, writing skills, a formal manner, be articulate and educated, computer literacy, and graphics skills. www.a2vitosha.com. (734) 741–4969.

PROJECT ASSISTANT
Wanted part time for interesting work: research, writing, filmmaking, and other areas; flexible hours, good pay. Send response to: Project Assistant, P.O. Box 6052, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-6052.

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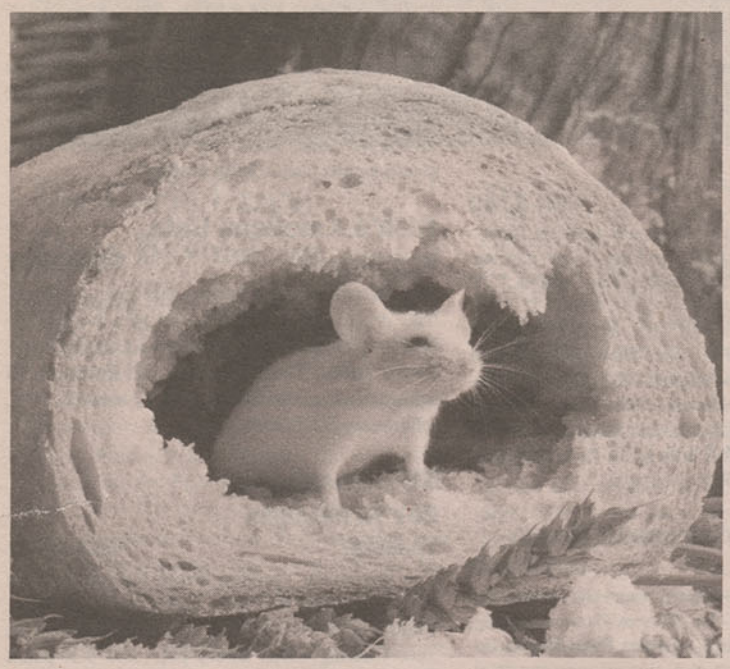
Reading, writing, math tutor. 30 years' experience teaching special education, Orton-Gillingham, Project Read trained. Kathy, 663–4415.



For Sale

The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

Tickets: Red Wings and Michigan basketball lower blue. 663–0690.

Entertainment

The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

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Lessons & Workshops

The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

PIANO LESSONS, AGE 5 & UP
Prof. piano teacher, U-M Music School grad. Member of Piano Teachers Guild. Convenient west-side location. Mary Ann McCulloch, (734) 604–0942. Email mcpianolady@aol.com.

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Piano and Guitar Lessons. Double degreed music teacher. Pittsfield Township. (734) 646–2740.

ANN ARBOR AREA PIANO TEACHERS GUILD for referrals to qualified professional piano teachers. All levels and ages, 665–5346. aaaptg.googlepages.com.

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Miscellaneous

The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

I SPY CONTEST
Can you identify the glimpse of Ann Arbor in the photo on p. 107? If you can, you could win a copy of Jonathan Marwil's *A History of Ann Arbor.* One winner will be drawn from all correct entries received by noon, November 10. No phone entries, please. Send your answer to: I Spy, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, AA 48104. Fax: 769–3375; email: backpage@aaobserver.com (include address and phone number and put I Spy in the subject line).

Services

The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

SHOSHANA TECH SUPPORT
Computer Setup & Support, Home & Small Business. Call Tom, (734) 662–3537.

★ Construction Debris—Recycled ★
Roofing, lumber, carpeting, and misc.
TRC HAULING, 665–6895

ART AND ANTIQUE APPRAISALS
Insurance and estate tax valuations on your personal property by qualified appraiser. Please call: Jan Hack, (734) 663–5310.

Boat, RV, and car parking. Starting from $25/month. Fenced and lighted. Central Ann Arbor location. 663–0690.

Business Services

The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

Strzynski Signs—custom vinyl, letter, graphics, and murals. (734) 657–2992, www.dylanstrzynski.com/signs

Health

The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

Affordable Massage for Every Body: Deep tissue, sports, pregnancy, injury rehab, on-site/event. Nationally certified, 12 years' exp. Clinic on west side. Tues.–Sat. Call **Carolann@Relax&Renew.** (734) 368–2138.

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Leave the dirty work to us.
Call Karla, (734) 231–2050.

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Painting in Ann Arbor for over 10 years. Interior/exterior. Decks. References. Call Brian at (734) 657–8667. Email BLT@umich.edu

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Using nontoxic products. Specializing in historic and vintage homes up to 2,000 sq. ft. Rose (734) 709–3243. A Right Livelihood Business.

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The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

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Artistic portraiture and creative coverage of events. Dorothy Gotlib Photography, 223–7069, **www.dorothygotlib.com.**

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Creative images of your special event by a friendly craftsman with over 30 years of professional experience. **Lance Burghardt, (734) 769-6756.**

Real Estate

The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

Is your home not selling?
Considering the option of leasing it?
We can help!
We will buy your home on a lease option.
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For Sale by Owner

The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

For Rent

The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

Vacation Rental

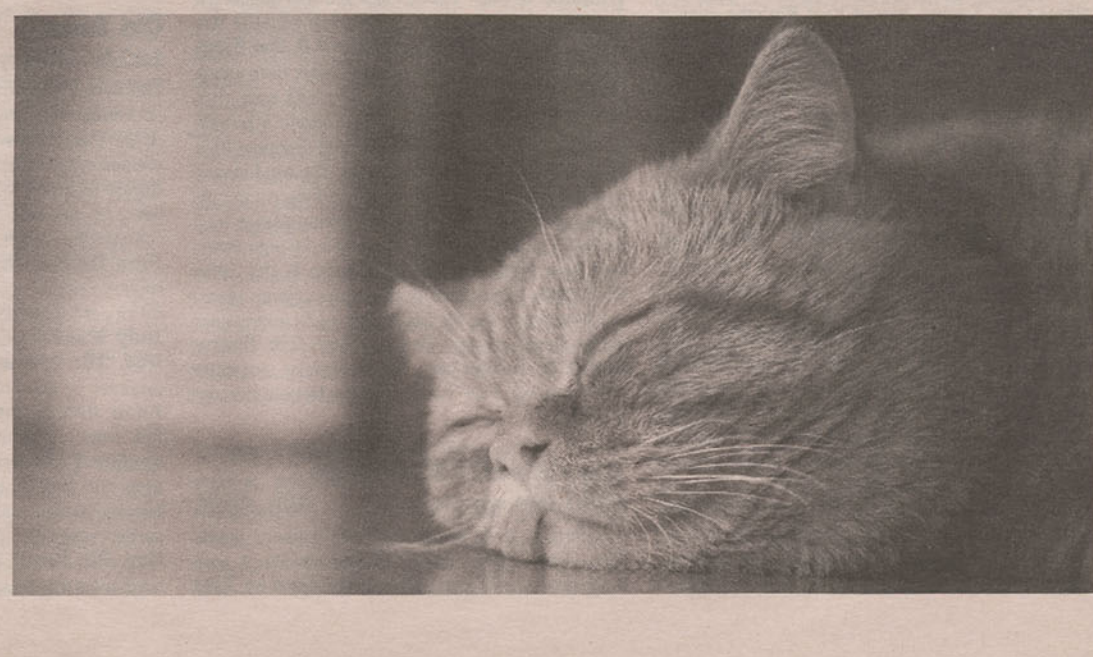
The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

Real Estate Services

The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

Wanted

The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.



Personals

Personals Key

A=Asian
B=Black
C=Christian
D=Divorced
F=Female
G=Gay
H=Hispanic
H/WP=Height & Weight Proportionate
ISO=In Search Of
J=Jewish
✍=Letters
LTR=Long Term Relationship
M=Male
ND=Nondrinker
NS=Nonsmoker
☎=Phone Calls
P=Professional
S=Single
W=White

Women Seeking Men

The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

PERSONAL CALL
(900) 226–8978
18 or older. Touch-Tone phone.
$1.95/min.

Slim, healthy, thoughtful, liberal, doc-level educated A2 woman ISO a good man/-partner, early 50s, NS. ☎5781✍

Hiking, biking, traveling, dining, and reading. **DWPF,** 60, active, attractive. Seeks DWPM, 59–69, happy, delightful, sensitive, and honest, to share interests, for companionship, good times, and more. ☎5779✍

Boomer babe who hasn't lost touch with her Inner Girl. Into music, travel, books, keeping fit. Seeks honest man, 54–65, who is wise, witty, and warm. ☎5778✍

Looking for my special man. I'm 43, brown hair, brown eyes. I enjoy dancing and going to concerts. Let's have some fun! ☎5711✍

Down on your luck? Many women but no chemistry? This pretty minx with personality plus might just fit the bill. ISO DWPM, NS, 50–60, to ride in my air balloon. ☎5762✍

Positively "seasoned," 56 years young, **DWPF.** Slender, caring, affectionate partner. New to area. ISO uplifting, easy companionship/relationship. NS please. ☎5776✍

Retired university prof. Foreign-born American, **SWF,** NS, ND, ISO educated, healthy, honest gentleman in early 70s. ☎5668✍

Ready for romance? **SWPF** seeks bright, caring SWPM for LTR. Must love animals. Serious replies only. ☎5774✍

SWF, young 70, 125 lbs., 5'3", attractive. Enjoys dancing, movies, travel, etc. ISO NS healthy gentleman/partner in his 60s to early 70s for LTR. ☎5767✍

Pretty nature lover, 5'7", 132 lbs., long curly hair, blue eyes. Into yoga, music, raw food, and laughing. Loyal, honest, and giving. Into rocks, minerals, birds, and life. ☎5761✍

Loving, caring, attractive, young-looking 5'6", 125 lbs. **AF** loves music, books, travel, dogs, cooking, healthy living. ISO SW/AM, NS, ND, 67–75, sincere, LTR. ☎5764✍

SHF, 33, plus size, ISO SW older teddy bear type. Enjoy music, movies, sports, outdoors, candlelit dinners, music, travel, much more. Looking for very serious relationship. ☎5750✍

Unencumbered **DWPF** (think Bette Midler) ISO emotionally and financially secure S/DWPM, 35–50+, for adventure, hot monogamy, and more. Friends first. ☎5752✍

SWF, educated, professional, ISO SWPM, 52–65. NS, no tattoo. LTR and possible marriage. ☎5727✍

We do what I want. Queen ISO uxorious S/DWM, 38–60, for Chicago, up north, fireplaces. **SWPF,** 40s, bossy, sensual. For friendship and possible LTR. ☎5729✍

Seeking marriage and family, 40-ish female, no kids, never married, likes pets, home renovation, and new experiences. Serious and sincere only please. ☎5707✍

DWCF, 53, NS, with everything but the guy! Happy with my life, ISO the right man to share it with. ISO D/S, WCM, 40s to 50s, NS. Enjoy simple pleasures, simple lifestyle. ☎5680✍

Slim **PBF,** 50s and fit. Likes movies, dance. No dependents. ISO SPM, 50 to 60, NS, fit. LTR. ☎5693✍

Men Seeking Women

The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

PERSONAL CALL
(900) 226–8978
18 or older. Touch-Tone phone.
$1.95/min.

Smart, funny, interesting educator-turned-carpenter-turned-semi-retired **SWM,** 51, loves cats and music, seeks liberal woman, 45–55, for dating and friendship, LTR. ☎5780✍

Educated, bank employed, great kisser, Asian widower in good shape, lives alone, enjoys fitness, walks, movies, soaps, cuddles, cooking. Seeks SF, 40–50, for LTR. ☎5773✍

SWM, 58, gray teddy bear, seeks a honey for chess, jazz, BBQs, and more. ☎5775✍

SM, 75, NS, seeking female, 65–75, for friendship and more. ☎5765✍

Average-looking guy, 47, whom everyone loves. Animal lover, honest as the 16th president. Trim, NS. I'm hassle-free so open up. Let's travel and have fun. ☎5770✍

What does it take for a great connection? Fun, values, and appearance. I'm 60 years old; very contemporary guy. You should be a liberal and a great kisser. ☎5687✍

A carrier pigeon is flying . . . a middle-aged multilingual Asian man is appearing . . . ☎5759✍

Singles player, 58, game for a good-humored doubles partner for a set of tennis or possible match. ☎5744✍

Tennis player, film lover, **SWPM,** 5'11", fit, 50. ISO artistic, possibly athletic SWF for LTR. ☎5715✍

DWM, 59, 5'7", ISO good-looking woman, 120–140 lbs., SWF, 45–55, LTR, NS. Loves movies and motorcycle trips. Loves being spoiled. ☎5679✍

Time for a change? **SWPM,** 49, 5'8", fit, introspective, with no dependents, seeking fit SWPF, 35–50, who is flexible, fun, and curious. ☎5704✍

21 things you want in a lover—the song describes me well. **SWM,** 46, healthy, happy, and a Green Builder. Hope to meet a fun, active SF to share life with. ☎5655✍

DWM, 70 years young, 195 lbs., 5'11", attractive, home-centered. Enjoys music, movies, travel. ISO slender A, H, or WF for LTR. ☎5689✍

Educated, fit **DWPM** loves dancing, the outdoors, the symphony. ISO thin, elegant woman, 39–47, who is positive on relationships. ☎3031✍

Friendships

The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

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You know *The Secret* (R. Byrne) and seek friends who do, too. For spiritual support, friendship, and fun. I am F, you are M/F of any age. ☎5777✍

Women Seeking Women

The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

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Men Seeking Men

The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

PERSONAL CALL
(900) 226–8978
18 or older. Touch-Tone phone.
$1.95/min.

GWPM, vibrant, trim 50s, NS, ND, seeks boyish, skinny, geeky, career-minded guy, 20–35, for dating or LTR. Any race, effeminate, HIV+ OK. ☎5772✍

General Personals

The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

ANN ARBOR SKI CLUB
Don't ski . . . it's OK. Enjoy all the other "4 season" social and sports activities of the Ann Arbor Ski Club for singles & couples 21/over from A2 and surrounding communities. Established organization averaging 400 members! Upcoming events: **11/6 GENERAL MEETING / FASHION SHOW; 11/8, 11/14, 11/20 Nights Out on the Town; 11/20 GENERAL MEETING / DANCE; and 11/22 U-M/Ohio State Tailgate Party.** For more info on events, including sign-up procedures, consult the club hotline, (734) 786–2237, or go to www.a2skiclub.org.

It's Easy to Respond to a Personals Ad!

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Or to respond by phone using a credit card, call (800) 222–5157.
You must be 18 or older. $1.95 a minute.

To Respond to a Personals Ad by Mail:

Responses are forwarded for $3 per letter. Put each letter in its own envelope with the box number and sufficient first-class postage on the front. Do not put your return address on the individual envelopes, but be sure to include your contact information inside the letter if you wish to receive a reply. Mail all response letters (in a larger envelope) to the Observer; include a check for $3 per response made payable to:
Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, MI 48104.

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Observer Personals Ads are also posted online at:

www.arborlist.com—*totally free classifieds,* and
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Please call with any questions or comments: (734) 769–3175

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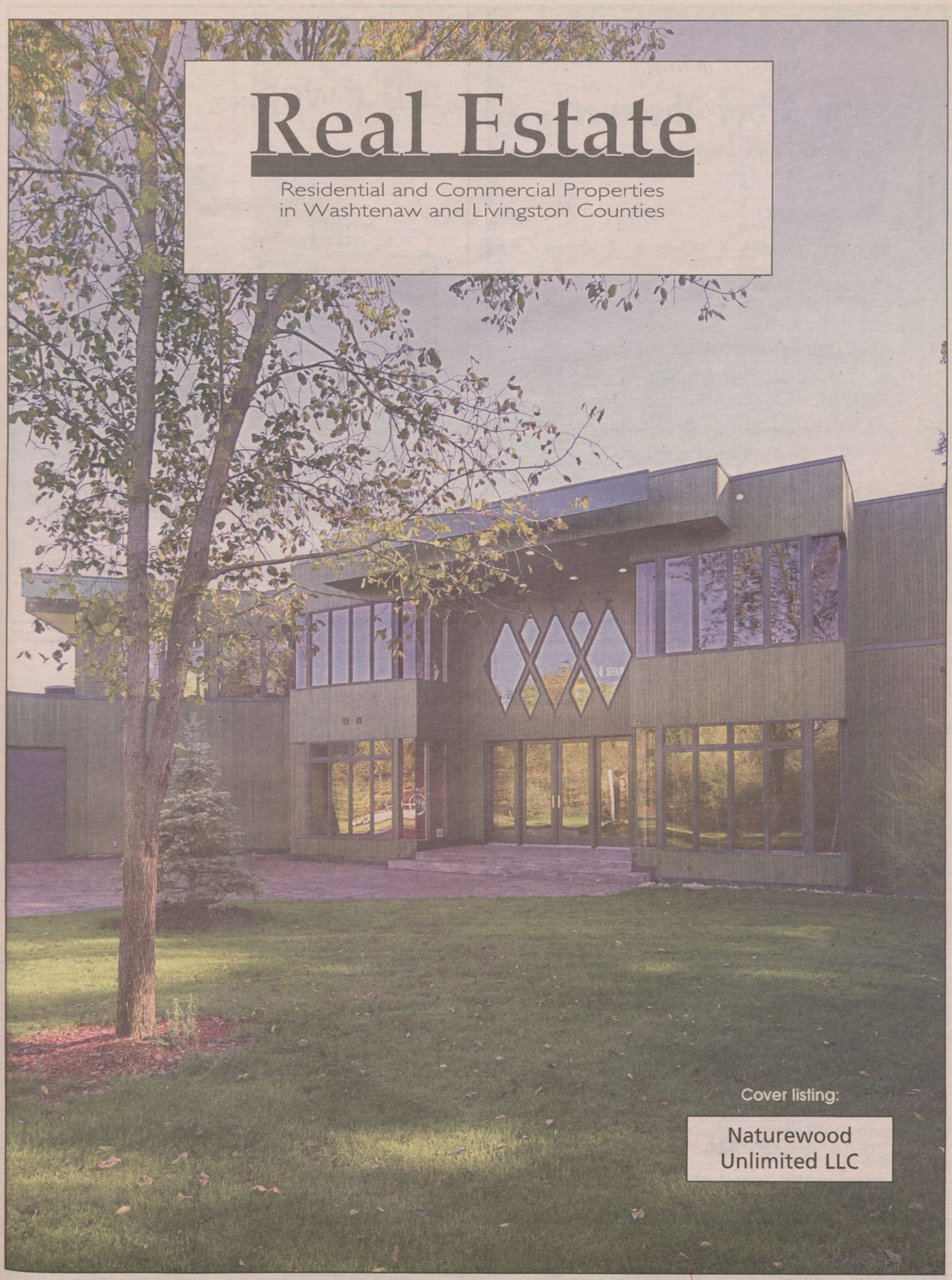

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Let the Holidays begin!

The ***Holiday Guide*** is a special feature included in the December Ann Arbor Observer. It's a great opportunity to provide our readers with creative ideas for the holidays.

Let holiday shoppers know that you have the "perfect" answer to all their holiday needs, whether it be gifts for family and friends, a new outfit for a special event, festive decor and treats for a holiday party, or helpful services to make the season more enjoyable!

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Real Estate GUIDE

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On the Cover: The Swan House has over 300 feet of frontage on the Huron River. This custom-built, 7,200-square-foot home features "his and hers" first- and second-floor master suites, both with Jacuzzis. The sunken country kitchen has partial stone walls, "Whiskey Black" cherry cabinets, and "Black Galaxy" granite countertops. The home includes 10-foot ceilings, five fireplaces, four and a half baths, and a heated, three-and-a-half-car garage.
6140 First St., Superior Twp. $1,675,000.
Terry E. Furst,
Naturewood Unlimited LLC, (734) 434-5599.

Cover photo by J. Adrian Wylie

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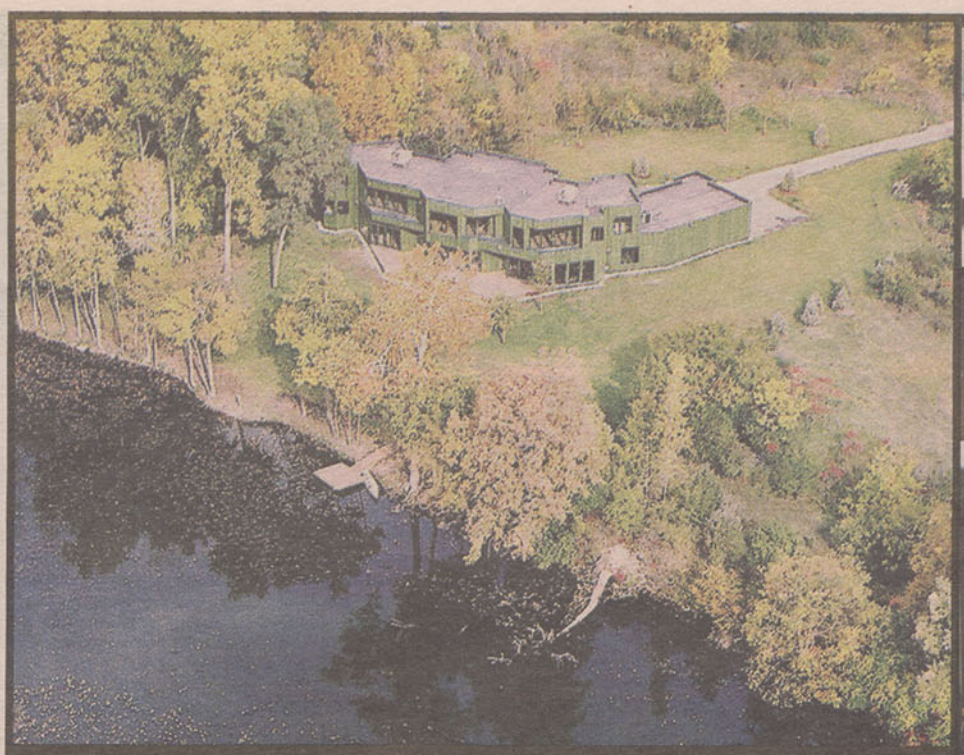

The Swan House

"Dream Big" This Fall! *If nature, privacy, security and peace of mind are necessities for you—be the first to move into the Swan House*

The Swan House is the third new home on this 25 acre five home resort setting, nestled on the scenic Huron River in Superior Township. It includes 7,200 square feet with over 300 feet of water frontage - just 85 feet from the house. This home is just 6 miles from downtown Ann Arbor and views some of the largest bodies of water. A protected, wooded shore across river provides some of the most private, secluded settings you will find. The sites are partially wooded with long lighted wooded driveways, power gates, and offer some of the most unique wildlife in lower Michigan.

The Swan House joins the 'Halo House', 2002 and the 'Waterfall House', 2005 as contemporary designed International Style homes specifically designed for each site. The homes blend nature, wood, and water - and give one the sense of being outside when you're really inside looking out.

Includes 'His and Hers' first and second floor master bedroom suites - one with partial stone walls and one with partial slate walls with glass walls to the water. Both have jacuzzis, hidden water closets, and large see-through glass 'Surround Water' stone showers. Sunken country kitchen has partial stone walls and 'Whiskey Black' cherry cabinets with black galaxy granite tops. Has an island with double ovens. A Viking Kitchen with 48 inch sub zero fridge and 48 inch gas stove top complement a large walk-in glass door pantry. Additional items include 10 foot ceilings with 8 foot doors, 5 fireplaces, 4 walk out roof decks/one long ground deck, 4 1/2 baths, Anderson windows/door walls, 8 large corner windows, oak trim/doors, large heated 3.5 car garage, security system and walkway to dock.

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NW ANN ARBOR – This gorgeous, custom-built home by Henry Landau rests on a 8+ acre country estate. Grounds include extensive landscaping, circle drive, and outbuilding. Home is rock solid with an all-brick exterior. Interior features includé two-story living room, striking dining room with barrel ceiling, custom kitchen, dream master suite and finished walkout basement. $1,295,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

DIXBORO FARMS – Stunning 4-bedroom, 4-bath new construction on a gorgeous 2-acre estate lot in this popular NE Ann Arbor neighborhood. Quality features everywhere including all brick exterior, cherry kitchen with granite counters, extensive custom molding and trim, luxury first-floor master suite, and finished walkout basement. $925,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

ANN ARBOR – Truly spectacular 5-bedroom, 5 ½-bath custom-built home resting on an a stately 2.2 acre parcel just west of town. This home features every conceivable amenity including dream kitchen with maple cabinets and professional grade appliances, two-story family room, cherry trim and floors, luxury master suite, smart house technology, Gunite pool, 5-car garage space, and more. $899,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

GLENNBOROUGH – This stately, custom-built 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath home rests on one of the finest lots in the neighborhood. Home has incredible presence set far back from the street with extensive landscaping, flowing stream, and pond frontage. Interior features wonderful contemporary flair with two-story great room, cherry kitchen with granite counters, first-floor master suite with sitting room, and finished walk-out basement. $799,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

DEXTER – Your own private estate backing to Peach Mountain. This incredible property is loaded with many unique and top quality amenities. Five-bedr oom, 3½-bath custom-built home features soaring ceilings, upgraded materials, and finished walkout basement. Second detached 3-car garage with apartment above is perfect for cars, boat, hobbies, etc. $599,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – SALINE – Incredible custom-built home on a gorgeous 10-acre estate parcel just minutes from town. The land is absolutely beautiful with ample trees, river frontage, and upgraded out building. Interior features include two-story great room, custom kitchen with granite counters and professional grade appliances, all hardwood floors, and luxury master suite. $569,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

CENTENNIAL PARK – This custom-built 5-bedroom, 3½-bath home is one of the finest on the market today. You will be impressed by the extensive upgrades and professional décor. Gorgeous lot overlooking the pond, custom kitchen with maple cabinets, two-story great room, luxury master suite, and finished walkout basement with home theater and bar. $519,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

STRAWBERRY LAKE – This 5-bedroom, 3½-bath home rests on one of the finest lake front settings you will find anywhere. Enjoy gorgeous bluff top views from the large deck and year-round sun room of one of the area's best all-sports lakes. Home features substantial updates including cherry kitchen with Corian counters, all new baths with granite, fresh paint, and finished walkout basement. $499,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

PINCKNEY – Gorgeous 4-bedroom, 3-bath custom-built home with 90 ft. of frontage on Highland Lake. This home is just paradise with panoramic views of lake and 11,000 acres of state owned land. The interior is loaded featuring oversized great room, maple kitchen with granite, and dream master suite. $469,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

YPSILANTI TOWNSHIP – This 4-bedroom, 3-bath custom-built home rests in your own private wooded oasis. Incredible home inside and out including 8-car garage space in two outbuildings, one with finished office space. The interior of this home has been completely renovated with all first class amenities. Maple kitchen with granite counter tops, new baths, cherry floors, great room with vaulted ceiling, and luxury master suite. $449,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

STONEBRIDGE – This custom-built 4-bedroom, 3-bath detached condo rests on the finest lot in Stonebridge. Enjoy panoramic views of the large pond, twin islands, and #17 fairway from the large deck, screened porch, or brick paver patio. Wonderful interior amenities include cherry kitchen, great room with 10 ft. ceiling, den, great master suite, and finished walkout basement. $445,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

BRASS CREEK – This custom-built home rests on one of the most beautiful sites you will find. Gorgeous acre lot with extensive landscaping, treed backyard, deck, and patio. Interior is sharp with two-story great room, den, open kitchen with granite island, first-floor master suite, and finished walk-out basement. $424,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – WILDWOOD – This perfectly maintained and upgraded 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath colonial in one of Saline's most desired subs has all the features you've been hoping for. Gorgeous lot backing to woods includes extensive landscaping, large deck, and patio. The interior is perfect featuring open kitchen with granite, large family room, nice master suite, and finished walkout basement. $284,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

STONEBRIDGE – Super sharp 3-bedroom, 3-bath condo in Stonebridge overlooking the #8 fairway. This unit is gorgeous featuring open living room with 10-ft. ceiling, sun porch overlooking the course, master suite with vaulted ceilings, and finished basement with view out windows. $279,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

GRASS LAKE – This 4-bedroom, 3½-bath former builder's model home in Sandhill Estates is loaded with quality upgrades. Great design featuring two-story foyer, open great room, large kitchen with island, first-floor master suite with sitting area, and three-car garage. $279,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

MANCHESTER – This custom-built 3-bedroom, 2-bath ranch on almost 11 pastoral acres is close to perfect. Custom-built by Don Gaddes, this home was built with extreme attention to energy efficiency and indoor air quality. Wonderful home with large great room, maple kitchen, nice master suite, and mostly finished basement with view out windows. $275,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

MARKET UPDATE

We are in the middle of one of the most confusing and troubling economic situations in our lifetime. The events of the past month have affected us all in negative way. However, I have encountered many people who mis-understand the current Real Estate Market in Ann Arbor. Here are some truths to know and understand:

HOMES ARE SELLING – Through the end of September more homes have sold in 2008 than in the same period in 2007. In addition, the number of homes coming for sale has reduced drastically, 25% fewer year to date. Many of my listings are selling. I offer maximum advertising exposure for my listings.

MORTGAGE MONEY IS AVAILABLE – The current banking crisis does not include money available for home loans. Anyone with a job, decent credit, and a down payment can get a mortgage. My preferred lenders are ready to help. I offer full buyer agency services.

If you are considering buying or selling a home, choosing an experienced Real Estate Professional is your first and most important step. I am successfully helping my clients complete real estate transactions in this market. I'd be glad to help you as well. Call me today, 734-476-7100.

Matt Dejanovich

Matt Dejanovich has been a resident and realtor in Ann Arbor and its surrounding communities for over 20 years. In that time he has become one of the top producing agents at Real Estate One, the largest real estate brokerage in the state. Matt prides himself on providing personal, direct service to each and every one of his customers.

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COLLEGE HEIGHTS – Stunning 4-bedroom, 3½-bath home built in 2006 walking distance to UM Central Campus and UM hospitals. Gorgeous home featuring custom kitchen with upgraded stainless steel appliances and granite, family room with built-ins, luxury master suite, and finished basement. $799,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

ANN ARBOR – This gracious 5-bedroom, 4-bath custom-built colonial rests on a peaceful 2.2 acre setting just minutes from town. Incredible features include two-story foyer and family room, custom kitchen with granite counter tops, oversized master suite with dream closet, and finished basement. You will love it! $749,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

BARTON HILLS AREA – New construction just minutes from downtown Ann Arbor and U of M. This 5-bedroom, 3½-bath home on a peaceful 1.5 acre parcel features wonderful oversized rooms, ample hardwood floors, custom kitchen with professional grade appliances, luxury master suite. $699,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

BURNS PARK – This is not your typical Burns Park home. Gracious 3-bedroom, 2½-bath custom-built contemporary overlooking the Park!! You will be amazed at the quality features and incredible design of this truly one-of-a-kind home. Custom kitchen, sun room, and den all have views of the park. Luxury master suite, spacious bedrooms, and finishable third floor. $599,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

STONEBRIDGE – Incredible 5-bedroom, 3½-bath custom-built home with panoramic views of the #4 fairway and pond at Stonebridge. This home is just perfect and features exceptional landscaping and grounds, perfect interior condition, and the best view you will see. Large, open kitchen with maple cabinets and granite counters. Family room with fireplace, luxury master suite, and finished basement with rec room, bedroom, and bath. $499,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

LOHR LAKE VILLAGE – This 4-bedroom, 2½-bath colonial has been wonderfully expanded and upgraded and rests on one of the most beautiful lots you will find. Enjoy gorgeous views of ponds and common area from the large deck, patio, or all-glass sun room. The interior is beautiful and features a remodeled kitchen with cherry cabinets and granite counters, open family room, luxury master suite with new bath, and partially finished basement. $489,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

STONEBRIDGE – Custom-built 4-bedroom, 2½-bath home on a quiet cul-de-sac in one of the area's most desired subs. Incredible lot borders trees and a stream with oversized patio and extensive landscaping. Gorgeous interior features large great room with vaulted ceiling, gourmet kitchen, spacious first-floor master suite, and finished basement. $475,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

YORK WOODS – Incredible 4-bedroom, 3-bath custom-built ranch overlooking the lake in one of Saline's most desired subs. Incredible lot featuring dense woods, extensive landscaping, deck, patio, and screened porch overlooking the water. Stunning interior with wonderful space throughout. Great room with water view, spacious kitchen, luxury master suite, and finished walkout basement. $469,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – WATERWAYS – Incredible 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath colonial on a quiet, wooded cul-de-sac deep within the neighborhood. Wonderful setting with large backyard, large deck, and professional landscaping. The interior of this home has been completely redone. Features include remodeled cherry kitchen with granite counter tops, extensive hardwood floors, luxury master suite, and beautifully finished lower level. Saline Schools. $409,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE – Are you looking for a GORGEOUS wooded setting just minutes to Ann Arbor and I-94? This is it!! Enjoy the complete seclusion and privacy of this 2.1 acre wooded setting. The 3-bedroom, 2-bath home features great room with vaulted ceiling, spacious oak kitchen, study loft, and private master suite. $399,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE – This custom-built 3-bedroom, 3-bath home rests on one of the most beautiful settings you will find anywhere. Incredible backyard view with fully developed pond including large deck, extensive patios, and gorgeous landscaping. The interior is sharp including great room with vaulted ceiling and two-story fireplace, spacious kitchen with Corian counters, first-floor master suite, and finished walkout basement. $349,900 **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – LAUREL GARDENS – Highly desired 2-bedroom, 2 ½-bath condo in NE Ann Arbor's most desired condo complex. Great location and setting deep within the neighborhood backing to trees and natural area. Interior features formal living and dining, flex use den/tv room, and master suite with two walk-ins and luxury bath. $349,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

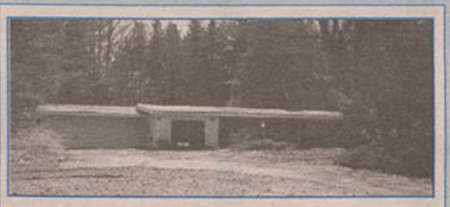
ANN ARBOR – This is not your typical Ann Arbor ranch. Backing to Pioneer woods, this home has been completely remodeled and expanded. Perfect for a single person or a couple, this home features a huge master suite overlooking the woods with upgraded bath, the backyard is all deck with sitting areas and complete privacy, finished basement, and more. $269,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SILO RIDGE - Perfect 3-bedroom, 2½-bath colonial on a quiet one acre cul-de-sac lot. Wonderful setting with spacious backyard, extensive landscaping, and large deck. Interior features open family room, first-floor den, nice kitchen, and spacious master suite. $269,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

OLD WEST SIDE – Walk to downtown Ann Arbor from this classic Old West Side 3-bedroom, 1-bath two-story home. Washtenaw Diary and Jefferson Market are just blocks away as well. Great home at a great price featuring extensive hardwood floors, large living room, spacious formal dining room, updated kitchen, and good sized bedrooms. $259,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

GRASS LAKE – Super sharp 3-bedroom, 2-bath ranch on 10 gorgeous acres just minutes to I-94. This is not your typical "cornfield" lot. Enjoy wonderful privacy and views of nature on this mostly wooded site. Home features spacious living room, eat-in kitchen, formal dining, and nice master suite. $259,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

BURNS PARK – Super charming 3-bedroom, 1-bath two-story home in one of Ann Arbor's most desired neighborhoods. Great price for this move-in condition home on a quiet tree lined street. Interior features extensive hardwood floors, custom décor, large living room with fireplace, and formal dining. Spacious backyard. $249,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



ANN ARBOR – Hard to find 2-bedroom, 2-bath handyman special on a wooded 1.5 acre lot on Huron River Dr. Great opportunity for fix up, major addition, or tear down of this ranch style home on Ann Arbor's west side. Great location just minutes to downtown and U of M. $249,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

YPSILANTI TOWNSHIP – Your own country oasis awaits you at this move-in condition 3-bedroom, 2½-bath home. Enjoy the gorgeous park-like setting just minutes from everything. This home is perfect and features living room with vaulted ceiling, family room with fireplace, and nice master suite. Gorgeous!! $249,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – FORD LAKE FRONTAGE - Enjoy panoramic bluff top views of Ford Lake from this remodeled and expanded 3-bedroom colonial. Lake front living at its finest with multiple decks and patios and a gorgeous all-sports lake. Home features added family room with vaulted ceiling and hardwood floor, central kitchen, spacious master bedroom, and finished basement. $249,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

GRASS LAKE – Wonderful 3-bedroom, 2-bath ranch on pastoral 6.8 acre parcel just minutes to I-94. Perfect setting with great privacy, large deck, and pole barn. Interior features great room with vaulted ceiling, open kitchen, formal dining room, large master suite with walk-in closet, and large basement. $239,999. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

MAPLEWOOD FS – This super sharp 3-bedroom, 2½-bath colonial has been completely updated over the past three years. Perfect move-in condition home features large living room, spacious kitchen, great lot with deck, nice master suite, and finished basement. You will love it. $219 ,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

ANN ARBOR – Great 3-bedroom, 1-bath ranch home walking distance to UM hospital, lower town, and downtown Ann Arbor. This home is in perfect move-in condition and features large backyard, one car garage, and neutral décor throughout. $169,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – EBERWHITE –Rock solid 3-bedroom, 1-bath brick ranch on one of the most desired streets in town. Nicely remodeled home with newer maple kitchen, windows, and roof. Home features large living room, open floor plan, and full basement. $169,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

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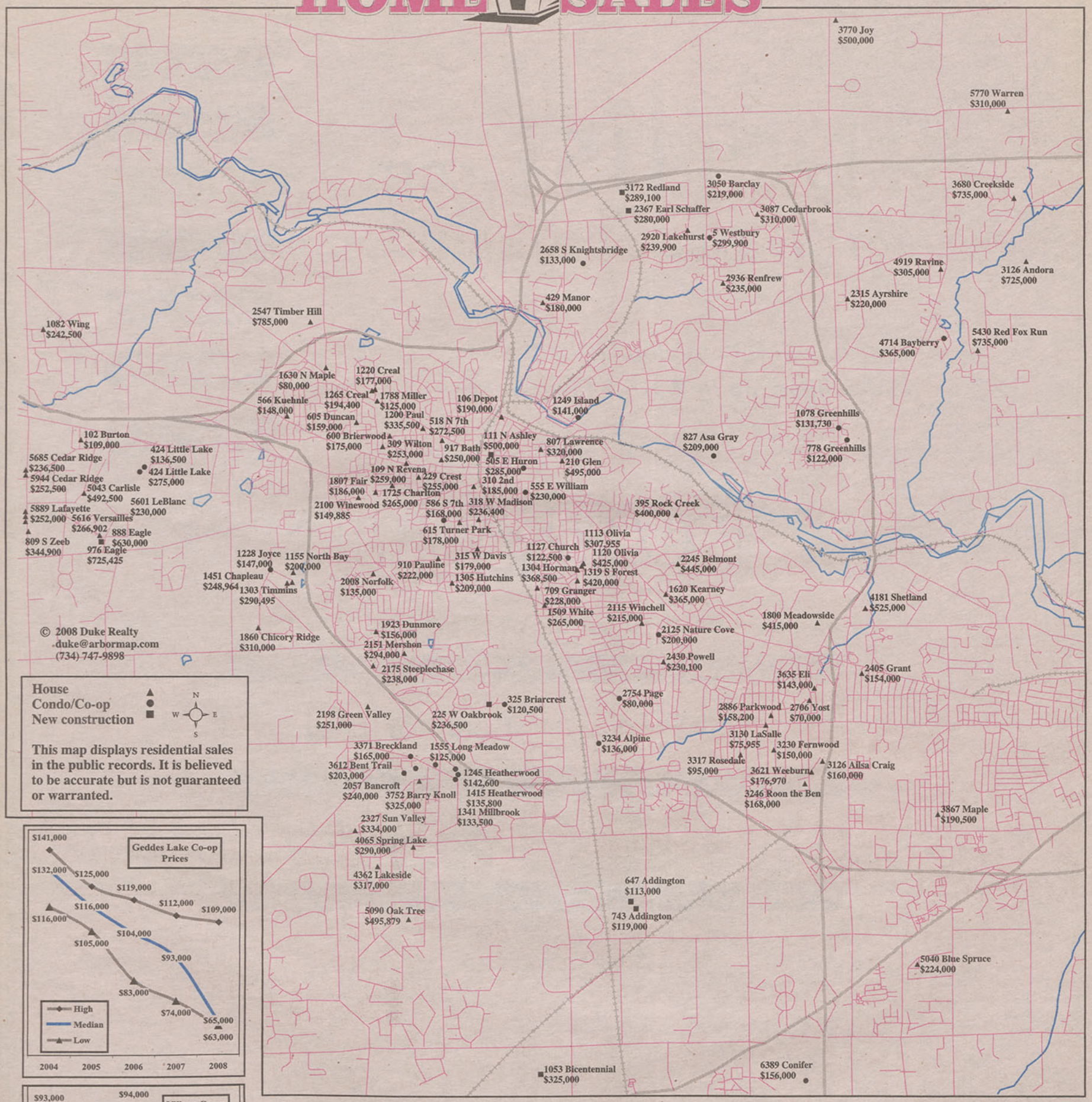
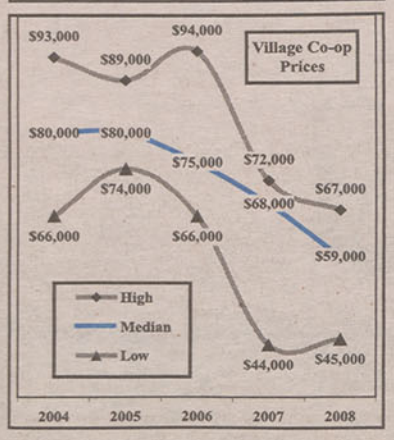
SEPTEMBER 2008

HOME SALES





Both of Ann Arbor's big housing co-ops have been hit with terrible losses since the market turned mean. But because co-op sales are handled like shares of stock, they don't appear in public records, and we don't record them on the Home Sales Map. For an update on co-op sales activity, we turned to the Ann Arbor Area Board of Realtors records. The charts at left illustrate the prices of units sold between January and September over the past five years.

In the Village, we compared two-bedroom, one-bathroom co-ops that run 1,080 square feet. Prices for these models have fallen dramatically—the median price for the eight co-ops sold in the first nine months of this year was down 13 percent from the same period in 2007. Since their peak in 2005, these units have suffered a cumulative loss of 26 percent. Charting the highest and lowest prices paid shows similar declines.

At Geddes Lake, we singled out floor plans with two bedrooms and one and a half bathrooms, which run from 1,200 to 1,280 square feet in size; five of these co-ops have sold so far this year, and their median price has slipped a stunning 30 percent since 2007. This brings the cumulative loss since their values peaked in 2004 to 51 percent. The most expensive units suffered the least: the highest price paid for our sample Geddes Lake co-op fell from $141,000 in 2004 to $109,000 this year, a loss of "just" 23 percent.

—Kevin Duke

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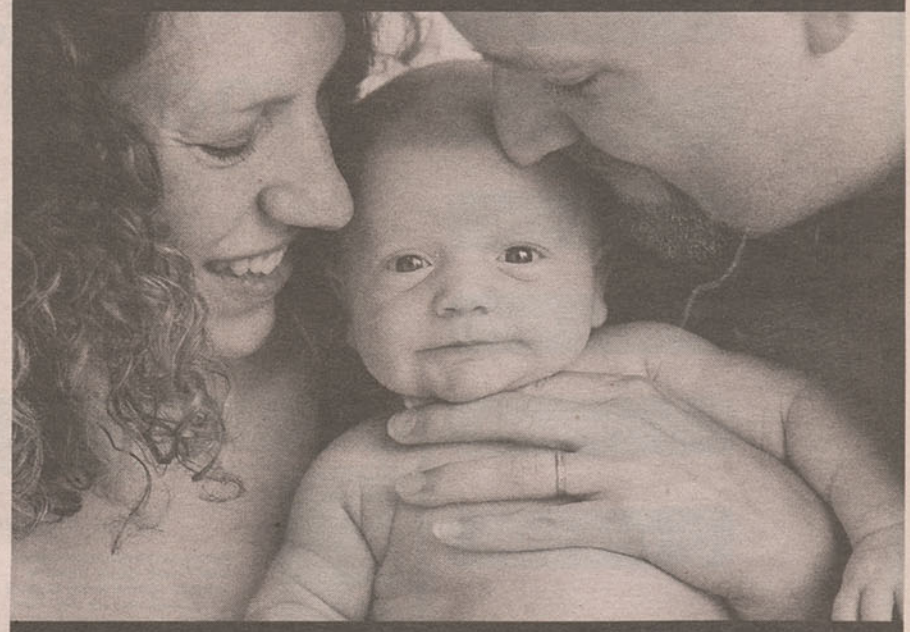

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Marketplace Changes

by Tony McReynolds & Sally Mitani

John Janviriya's new place

The Black Pearl has a masculine, nighttime vibe

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Black Pearl manager Aaron Drobek shows off some "fruity cocktails."

If you've been peering curiously into the **Black Pearl Seafood & Martini Bar,** which hung out its sophisticated-looking shingle months ago on Main, you can finally go inside. The floors of the narrow, deep space are black, and so are the walls, the bar, and the furniture. "We're aiming for that space right between restaurant and bar," says manager Aaron Drobek. It doesn't open until five and has a masculine nighttime vibe: three TVs tuned to ESPN pierce the blackness. "We're not a sports bar," Drobek says, "but the fact that we're on Main Street, Ann Arbor—you have to give 'em the option."

The Black Pearl was designed by co-owner John Janviriya, who's also responsible for at least a half dozen other restaurants and nightclubs on the Detroit-Chicago axis (the word *fusion* comes up a lot in descriptions of them). Janviriya was an original partner in Mélange, a few doors down from the Black Pearl (he no longer is), and he's a partner in the Birmingham Asian-seafood-sushi restaurant Chen Chow. At the Black Pearl he's partnered with Harry Cohen, who, according to Drobek, "has a Ph.D. in psychology and tours the country as a motivational speaker." Most nights when Cohen's in town, he's at the restaurant, Drobek says.

Severe and black as the Pearl is, the menu, designed by Chen Chow executive chef Robert Courser, is approachable and snacky. There are over a dozen appetizers, as well as sandwiches, soups, and salads in the $10–$15 range and ten entrees from $16 to $25. The real chef on the spot is Gabriel Geyman, a Culinary Institute of America grad who makes a mean french fry sprinkled with fresh thyme. The seafood promised in the restaurant's title ranges from raw oysters to coconut shrimp to calamari to black cod with miso crust.

As for drinks, Drobek says, "We're selling primarily martinis. Well," he corrects himself, "fruity cocktails served in a martini glass, but we are of course capable of making a standard martini as well."

Black Pearl Seafood & Martini Bar, 302 South Main, 222–0400. Mon. 5–11 p.m., Tues. & Wed. 5 p.m.–midnight, Thurs.–Sat. 5 p.m.–2 a.m., Sun. 5 p.m.–midnight. blackpearlonmain.com.

Amish furniture on Jackson Road

The Narowskis expand their niche

Wladyslaw and Nell Narowski started out online selling big tables—really, really big tables. "They go from a five-foot table that seats six and expand up to twenty-two feet and seat twenty-four," says Nell.

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Nel Narowski with Amish Furniture Home Showroom's supersized table.

Size was important because the Narowskis' first customers were a niche market: large families who homeschooled their kids and wanted to expand their dinner table into a work space. The tables—along with living room and bedroom furniture—are on display in the couple's new store, **Amish Furniture Home Showroom,** which opened on Jackson Road in early October.

The Narowskis came across the Amish-made tables a little over ten years ago in a Christian community in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. They negotiated with Amish woodworkers and began selling the tables online. Wladyslaw, a self-taught woodworker who built custom-made furniture in the 1970s, taught the Amish how to make detachable legs for easier shipping.

Business picked up when the Narowskis started traveling to homeschooling conferences. Soon their customer base expanded to people who wanted to be able to entertain extended families during the holidays. Over the years they've added chairs, bedroom sets, living room pieces, and even a cabinet that can hold a plasma TV.

They still do the bulk of their business online, but the showroom gives people a chance to see the furniture. It's all still handmade by the Amish, but these days the Narowskis contract with Amish woodworkers in northern Indiana. Nell says their working relationships were a little confused at first. "When we first started, they were all sharing the telephone booth, and they didn't have fax machines," she laughs. Now their Amish partners have accepted using cell phones and fax machines for business. "We've come a long way," Nell says. "We could never do this by mail."

Amish Furniture Home Showroom, 4844 Jackson Road, suite 100, 997–3201. Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m., and by appointment. amish-furniture-home.com.

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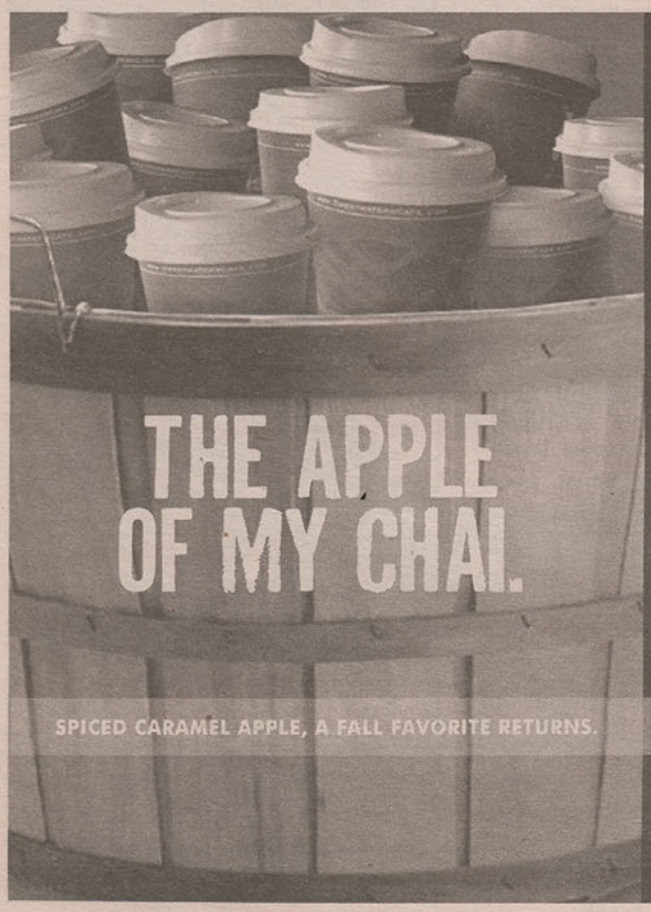

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A Loy returns to the food business

With fresh croissants on Packard

While young Kathryn Loy, owner of **Pastry Peddler,** was on the phone with a technician trying to get her credit card machine to work, the older woman at the counter explained that this was exactly the kind of annoying glitch that had kept the new bakery's Coming Soon sign in the window several months longer than expected. A customer sympathized, pointing out that business owners have to pay rent all those months before they open.

"Well, not really. We're giving her a pass on that for the time being," said the older woman—who turned out to be Kathryn's mother, Dianne Loy. Dianne and Dennis Loy, an architect, own this and several other properties on the Campus Corner block, the triangle whose other side has the slightly higher profile, with eateries like BTB Burrito (one of the Loy properties) and Quickie Burger. Years ago, Kathryn's grandparents, Wilson and Katherine Loy, ran restaurants—"diners, I guess you'd call them," she says—whose names evoke poodle skirts and letter sweaters. Over the years, her grandparents owned Loy's Place (where BTB is now), Loy's Double D, and Loy's Snappy Service.

The Renaissance women's department is getting a makeover in the move. "We're trying to fill the slot between a Von Maur and the independent women's boutiques that are out there," says owner Roger Pothus.

A three-time state women's golf champion while at Pioneer High (class of 1995), Loy went to the U-M on a golf scholarship and then played professionally until a back injury forced her to quit. Helping out at Benny's Bakery in Saline, she found her second calling, and went on to enroll in an intensive six-month program at Chicago's French Pastry School.

The Pastry Peddler is a simple place. One table, if you absolutely have to sit down, is all there is room for beside the glass display case of Loy's freshly made croissants, sticky buns, muffins, brownies, cookies, and bagels (from Barry Bagels; they're the one thing she doesn't make herself). "I'm proudest of my chocolate chip cookies," she says, but so far her customers' favorite is the pretty blueberry muffin made in a fluted charlotte mold.

She's proud of her coffee too: "They didn't teach us coffee at school. I had to learn all of that myself. It comes from Chicago, from Intelligentsia. It was rated the best in Chicago two years in a row. I wasn't a coffee drinker until I had it, and it sold me."

Pastry Peddler Bakery & Cafe, 619 Packard, 770–8366. Mon.–Sat. 6 a.m.–2 p.m. Closed Sun. pastrypeddler.com.

Briefly Noted

Renaissance has brightened the uninspiring southeast corner of Division and Washington, formerly parking space for TCF Bank. Owner Roger Pothus regrets the loss of foot traffic he had in his former location on Main, but he says he's now free to concentrate on his main clientele, destination shoppers. They and any new drive-by customers can use a small parking lot off Washington (despite the scary signs about towing, anyone with business in McKinley Towne Centre can park there).

The Renaissance women's department is getting a makeover in the move. "We have a dedicated women's dressing room," Pothus says, showing off a small, chic space furnished with a marble-topped table. "I've got six pairs of shoes with two-and-a-half-to-three-inch heels, for trying on dress-up stuff that I'll be putting in there." And further changes are planned. Pothus says the store will be "carrying lines that are not quite as expensive as what people are used to here. For example, we'll be carrying [designer] Elie Tahari. We're trying to fill the slot between a Von Maur and the independent women's boutiques that are out there."

Pothus is filling his new space with the unexpected. Among the clever touches are an atrium at the back entrance that will be used as a walk-through display window, and a trompe l'oeil exterior mural painted by Sterling Heights artist Bill Bradley—a Tuscan scene with faux rust stains seeping down a brick wall.

Renaissance, 201 South Division (McKinley Towne Centre), 769–8511. Mon.–Wed. & Sat. 10 a.m.–7 p.m., Thurs. 10 a.m.–8 p.m., Fri. 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. renaissanceannarbor.com.

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Andrus McDonald says the name of his new nightclub, the **Fifth Quarter,** refers to several things: the club's Fifth Avenue location, the five clubs he hopes to eventually run (a second spot in Lansing is in the works), the French Quarter in New Orleans, and football's version of golf's nineteenth hole—a place to nosh after the game.

McDonald owns the building, which formerly housed another nightclub, Oz. He's done a complete renovation since Oz closed last year. The back half of the space is a dance floor, complete with a mirrored wall, banquet seating, a DJ booth, and a full bar; the front is a more traditional sports bar, with dark wood and plasma TVs, "so the guys can catch the game while the girls dance," McDonald says. There's a DJ Thursday through Saturday and a mechanical bull on Friday.

McDonald got his start in the nightclub business working the door at Rick's American Cafe while attending the U-M in the

early 1990s. Later, in law school at the University of Detroit Mercy, McDonald started making and selling his own brand of vodka called Zodiac; he'd rent a venue, hire entertainment, and serve Zodiac. When the party revenues far outstripped vodka sales, he sold the rights to Zodiac to a Texas distillery and used the profits to open Envy, a nightclub and restaurant in Detroit.

McDonald sold Envy in 2006 to come back to Ann Arbor. He says bars do well in college towns—and besides, "I loved the energy of college towns in general and Ann Arbor in particular. It's a more intelligent crowd. It's ever changing. It's more dynamic. It's cutting edge."

The Fifth Quarter, 210 South Fifth Avenue, 332–0200. Tues.–Sat. 9 a.m.–2 a.m. Closed Sun. & Mon.

Cupcake Station owner Kerry Johnson credits the popularity of his cupcakes to variety and portion control. "If you're having a party with twelve people, you can come in and get twelve different kinds of cupcakes," he says. "People used to go out and buy a cake. You'd end up with half a cake. And you're, like, 'Do I eat this whole thing? Or do I just throw it away?' With a cupcake, you eat it and you're done."

Johnson, forty-two, says he's been interested in baking since age six, when his mother taught him to make his first batch of cookies. He came back to it after twenty-one years as a landscape designer left him searching for an occupation that wasn't so hard on his knees. "I had come across a small bakery that sold small cupcakes about three years ago," he says. "And I thought, why not open up a shop that just strictly sells cupcakes? I'd seen bakeries just come and go, and I didn't want that to happen to my bakery, so I was looking for some kind of niche." That bakery in Birmingham became his first Cupcake Station in 2006; this is the second.

Johnson makes twenty-five varieties of cupcakes every day. He cooks from scratch using his own recipes, which include a carrot-cake cupcake with freshly shredded carrots, pineapple, coconut, and cream-cheese frosting; a moist vanilla-bean cake frosted with milk chocolate; and the Michigan Bumpy Cake, a dark chocolate cupcake with white cream bumps, dipped in dark chocolate and drizzled with white chocolate. Regular-size cupcakes are $2.75. Most are available in a mini-version for $1.30.

Johnson also does one specialty cupcake each month. November's Great Pumpkin cupcake has cream-cheese frosting and cinnamon sugar on top.

Johnson still marvels at how well the stores are doing. "When I started out, I had no idea it would take off," he says. "Who would have thought cupcakes would be so popular? Not me!"

Cupcake Station, 116 East Liberty, 222–1801. Sun.–Thurs. 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m.–11 p.m. cupcakestation.com.

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Marketplace Changes *continued*

Daniel Stephens closed his clothing store Ethnic Creations last December after a ten-year run. Now he's back with **Go Green,** which was scheduled to open in mid-October in Colonial Plaza on South Industrial. Its niche: environmentally safe products, from picnic and school supplies and cleaning products to insulation, flooring, and paint. "Paint is eighty percent of our business," says Stephens, primarily a brand called AFM Safecoat that contains no volatile organic compounds, ammonia, or formaldehyde.

Go Green also carries environmentally friendly floor sealers, stains, carpet shampoos, and carpet sealers. Stephens has a special antipathy for carpets. "It's all about off-gassing," he says—that so-called new carpet smell is caused by a chemical called butadiene, a known carcinogen.

Stephens also touts paper-product substitutes made from sugar cane pulp—which is produced in much the same way as wood pulp and looks like wood pulp too. Plates and some other sugar-cane-pulp products cost about twice as much as the paper versions, Stephens says, but "the napkins, toilet paper, and paper towels are very competitive."

Go Green, 1952 South Industrial (Colonial Plaza), 761–7227. Mon.–Sat. 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m.

Most restaurants try to give things away to customers when they open, but Ann Arbor's fourth **Panera,** when it opened the last week of September in Upland Green on Plymouth, was taking—asking customers to donate nonperishables to Food Gatherers in return for a free cup of coffee.

This was not a onetime PR gambit. Tony Sharkas, the new store's manager, says Panera always has strong local connections with "churches, homeless shelters, or food banks. Because we don't put any preservatives in our baked goods, they're best consumed the day they're made." Food Gatherers executive director Eileen Spring confirms that Panera stores "both locally and nationally have done much to raise money and raise awareness of hunger issues."

Panera began as the St. Louis Bread Company in the early 1980s, and its earthy, crusty loaves ($3–$8) are still the core product. But mainly Panera is a casual restaurant, and Sharkas says its main competitors are Applebee's and Chili's, which are a step up from Panera in price but offer table service and alcohol.

The menu is ultracasual, but with yuppie class: Sharkas is partial to a breakfast sandwich involving ciabatta bread, eggs, white cheddar cheese, and smoked applewood bacon done on a panini press for about $3, while assistant manager Carrie Vaquera brushed crumbs of her favorite Frontega smoked chicken panini off her chest while she talked.

Panera is the first business to open at Upland Green, the long delayed condo-retail development on the site of the old Diehl's junkyard. But Sharkas says Qdoba is coming soon: "I also heard something about an ice cream, yogurt, or smoothie place, and a spicy Thai restaurant."

Panera Bread, 1773 Plymouth Road (Upland Green), 332–6279. Mon.–Sat. 6 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun. 7 a.m.–8 p.m. panerabread.com.

"Our goal is [to] bring high-line import luxury experience to domestic stores," says David Gilmour, new co-owner of **Naylor Chrysler Jeep.** He and business partner Benn Gilmore (different spelling, no relation) didn't waste any time doing it. As soon as they took over the dealership in mid-July, they sank several hundred thousand dollars into remodeling. "My buddy made a joke when I was telling him about the granite countertops, the Starbucks machine," Gilmour says. "He said, 'Really? You mean to tell me people who buy Chryslers want to be treated well and have a nice place?'

"Most domestic dealers don't get that. They figure if they own a halfway decent place and give [customers] at least a flat-screen TV to look at, they'll be fine. That's not true. They want that extra red-carpet treatment, so they know we appreciate their business." Gilmour knew how to provide that, because he used to manage luxury import dealerships.

His vision dovetails nicely with his partner's. Benn Gilmore was an ear, nose, and throat surgeon for more than two decades before he retired last December. "My plan was to do full-time Christian medical missions," he says. But he discovered that with humanitarian aid organizations losing support, medical missionary work was scarce.

He found a new direction when he went to buy a car from Gilmour last winter. They had known each other casually for five years, and Gilmore asked his friend what his long-range goal was. "He said, 'To have one hundred dealerships and change lives,' " Gilmore recalls. "I thought, 'Christian missionary work is changing lives. Maybe we can collaborate here.' "

They wanted a dealership with a good reputation for customer service, low employee turnover, and a great work environment. They found it in Naylor—and Phil Naylor, whose dad opened the business in 1950 and who took over in 1985, was looking to sell for health reasons. The sale was completed in July.

Gilmour says the welfare of the dealership's fifty-four employees is the owners' first concern. "Take care of the folks that work here," he says, "and they'll take care of the customers."

He's been working in dealerships long enough to know that sounds improbable. "Obviously," Gilmour adds, "we're capitalists. If God blesses us, if it's his will, we'll make money. But at the end of the day, if it ended tomorrow, we've already changed fifty-four lives for the better."

Naylor Chrysler Jeep, 2060 West Stadium Boulevard, 662–3175. Showroom open Mon. & Thurs. 9 a.m.–8 p.m.; Tues., Wed., & Fri. 9 a.m.–6 p.m.; and Sat. 10 a.m.–3 p.m. Closed Sun. naylormotors.com.

Follow-Up

Ten years ago this month, the Waters Place shopping center was under construction off Ann Arbor–Saline Road, and developers Fred and Tom Goldberg had already lined up their first "big box" tenants: **Best Buy, Kohl's,** and **Linens 'n Things.** The home chain is now in bankruptcy, but the electronics and clothing stores still look healthy.

An attempt to revive the former La Piñata as a seafood place called **Watercress** failed, but the **Tortoise & Hare** running store's expansion fared better—its branch in Traver Village is still with us. The **Bennett Optometry** location on South State has closed, as has the freestanding **Origins** cosmetics store nearby in Briarwood; Origins still has a counter inside Macy's.

In the South U area, four new food places were opening: **Casablanca,** a Middle Eastern restaurant in the former Pizzeria Uno; **Leo's Coney Island** in University Towers; **Real Pizza** inside the In and Out Party Store; and a **Roly Poly** sandwich shop. None survives, although a different franchisee has since opened another Roly Poly in Lamp Post Plaza on East Stadium.

November 1998 survival rate: 27 percent

Five years ago this month, the big news at Briarwood was the arrival of **Von Maur;** the department store has since become a familiar fixture, but the other new mall business that month, the **Aloha Grill,** is long gone. Four campus-area eateries opened—**TK Wu** Chinese restaurant, **Potbelly Sandwich Works, Papa John's** pizza, and a **Jimmy John's Gourmet Sandwich Shop** on South State—and all are still in business. The **Belle Tire** on Jackson Road is also a survivor, but the small **Sports Outlet** on Packard near Platt didn't make it.

November 2003 survival rate: 75 percent

One year ago this month, Marketplace Changes reported seven recent or planned retail and restaurant openings. The proposed conversion of the former Lulu's Cafe into a revived Leonardo's Pizza never came to pass, but all the places that actually opened survive: **Cafe Habana** on Washington, **Lexi's Toy Box** on Ashley, Liberty Street boutique and alternative hangout **Geechi Bleu, Sarah's Campus Dollar Store** in University Towers, and a pair of coffeehouses: **Great Lakes Chocolate and Coffee Company** on Jackson and the **Common Cup** in the University Lutheran Chapel.

November 2007 survival rate: 100 percent

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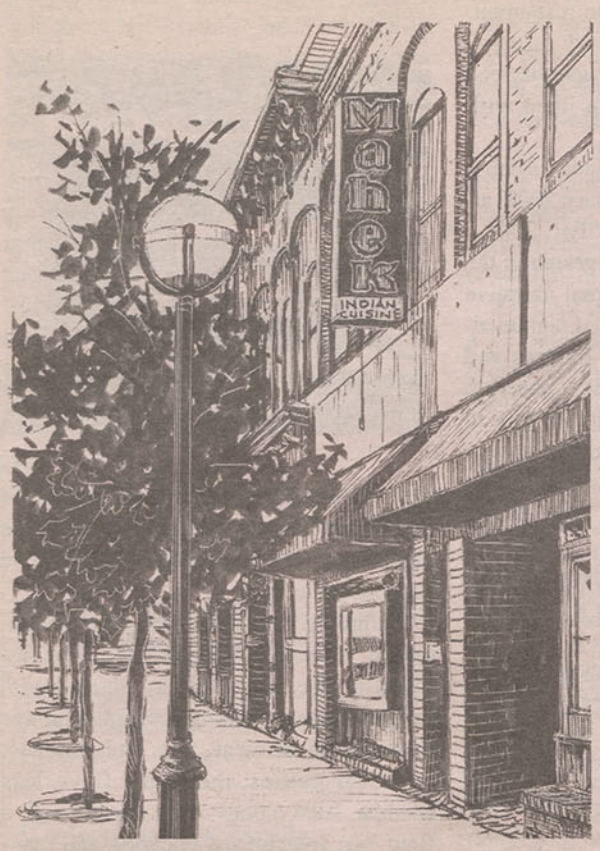

JOHN COPLEY

Mahek

Promising

Mahek reestablished the Indian restaurant presence on East Washington in late August, a year after Shalimar Cafe's departure left it a curry-free zone. The new restaurant was still young and uneven during my visits in September, but at its best, it has the potential to join the top tier of local Indian eateries.

Mahek has expanded the former Shehan Shah by breaking through a wall into the building next door. The new interior is sparkling and open, with black metal chairs and handsome iron lamps against a canvas of white tablecloths and walls accented with a few pieces of art—a framed crazy quilt, a photo of hennaed hands. Try for a seat in the main dining room, where the chairs are infinitely more comfortable.

Mahek instantly attracted more of a following than Shehan Shah. Among those early enthusiasts is a contingent from the Observer who come for the lunch buffet.

Mahek seems to have instantly attracted more of a following than Shehan Shah, which was eerily empty both times I visited. Among those early enthusiasts is a contingent of fans from the Observer who come for the lunch buffet. Like all buffets, Mahek's spread has the advantage of visual choice and instant gratification. It offers enough options but doesn't go to excess, and the $7.95 price really does cover everything, even a drink and dessert.

On two visits, the buffet consisted of a tomato cream soup, a choice of several chicken dishes, and my own favorites: a *dal makhani* of tiny green lentils in a moderately spicy sauce, a *chana masala* of chickpeas in a classic curry sauce, and a lovely *biryani* of long-grain rice and vegetables. All withstood the rigors of the steam table well. For other dishes, timing was important. The day I arrived at 11:30, all the offerings were fresh and delicious. When I got there at half past one, the vegetable *pakora* had dried out, and the bread had seen better moments (I'd guess an hour or so earlier).

Whenever you arrive, you'll have a choice of pickles and chutneys—a puree of mint-cilantro (I love this one), tomato-onion, a tangy sweet tamarind, and a spicy chunky mango-lemon pickle—as well as *raita* yogurt sauce and a drink such as mango juice. Sweet hot chai is dispensed from a pull-tap pot. This is a very nice lunch and a pleasant, well-priced workday break.

I was intrigued enough to go back for dinner. On my first visit, a Monday evening, I discovered a different Mahek—generally more refined and sometimes more delicious. Evenings, the buffet is packed up and guests are treated to table service. The à la carte menu shows off the northern-India orientation of Mahek's fare; also, the food is cooked to order, taking timing issues off the table.

On that first evening, four of us took advantage of the multicourse dinner-for-two special, which turned out to be a minibuffet, but made just for us. It was the kind of long, leisurely meal for which Indian food is so well suited—lively talk punctuated by spicy food, beginning with a complimentary plate of *pappadams*, those crisp wafer-thin, saucer-size peppery crackers made with lentil flour. Alongside came ramekins of mint-cilantro puree and tamarind sauce. Then our real starters arrived—piping hot vegetable samosas, generous deep-fried triangles of crisp pastry stuffed with potatoes and peas and spices. These were followed by a cuplet of dal, a yellow lentil soup that had a light and silky texture speckled with finely chopped bright green herbs, which in turn was succeeded by two chicken and two vegetarian mains. The chicken *makhani*—cookbook author Madhur Jaffrey calls it "chicken in a butter sauce"—was splendid and rich, with a tomato-cream sauce flavored with herbs, ginger, and the kitchen's own *garam masala* spice blend. The vegetable korma was lovely too, but it was also fairly rich, with a cream sauce binding chopped carrots, potatoes, nuts, and peas. So to balance it we had the boneless and sauceless tandoori roasted chicken tikka and *saag paneer,* cubes of house-made cheese and chopped spinach. The paneer was the least popular dish of the night—I was the only one in our group who liked its astringent, somewhat bitter flavor. On the side came a platter of fluffy, faintly seasoned basmati rice and fresh puffy crisped naan baked just for us. We ordered everything medium-spicy and doused the occasional chili fire with sweet mango *lassi*.

We barely had room for dessert, *gulab jamun*—fried breadlike balls in syrup and a super sweet but toothsome rice pudding sprinkled with pistachios. Service was solicitous throughout; we sipped piping hot chai and continued to dish until closing time, never feeling rushed.

A second dinner knocked me off my cloud. With a full dining room on a busy Friday, we sat for twenty minutes without so much as a hello from our waiter. That night much of the food was mediocre (mushy samosas and a charred Bombay grill platter), with the notable exception of finely tuned fish vindaloo, whose nuanced sauce tickled with vinegar and hot chilies. But I'm going to chalk that one up to the restaurant's having been open a scant six weeks. I'm still rooting for Mahek, which has shown it can be a deliciously talented newcomer.

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In the bag

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weiser, and, natch, Bagger Dave's, carry a load of metaphors around the restaurant. Wherever you sit, service is very casual—the fries are served in brown paper baglets, the hamburgers in a cake tin lined with baglike brown paper.

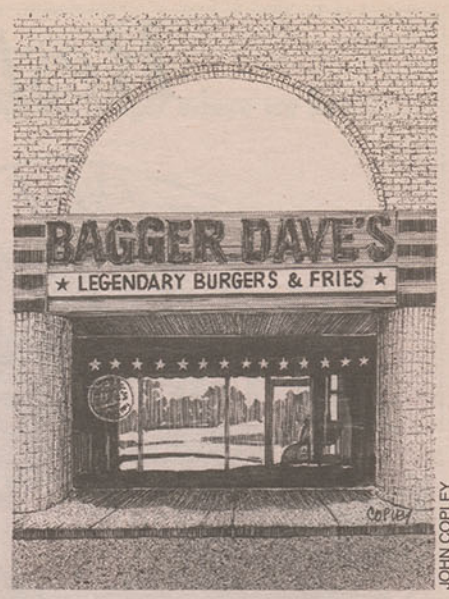
The first Bagger Dave's made its debut in Berkley, Michigan, in January 2008, although the logo proclaims "Est. 2006." Apparently during that long gestation the restaurant anticipated an eternal narrative for its fare, as its newly minted tagline already boasts of "legendary burgers and fries." The Bagger Dave's that opened in the Colonnade shopping center August 30 is the second; both are owned by Diversified Restaurant Holdings, which also owns a number of Buffalo Wild Wings franchises.

The menu is focused almost exclusively on burgers and fries, with a few sandwiches, chili, and salads. If you don't like hamburgers, you won't like Bagger Dave's; if you're a serious avant-garde-rare-Wagyu-on-challah connoisseur, you won't like it either. But if, like me, you're somewhere in the middle, Bagger Dave's may have some appeal.

Dave's hamburg is nicely sized—bigger than a slider, smaller than a megaburger. It's filling, yet small enough that you can eat a double out of hand without utensils and without having the thing fall apart. Dave's uses a flavorful cut of fresh chuck, brought in every other day from a Grand Rapids supplier and ground daily. The meat patties are cooked on a griddle to medium and retain a good deal of juiciness. You're encouraged to "create your own legend" from an order-form checklist starting with either a single or double patty setup, followed by four bread choices and thirty-four possible condiments, cheeses, and sauces—most free, some for an additional fee.

I started small, with a single 3.5-ounce patty on a sesame bun complemented by lettuce, tomato, pickle, and what the menu describes as "Hoffman's super sharp cheddar." Fresh off the griddle, this minimalist proletarian burger was tasty, but the cheese was so devoid of flavor I thought after the first bite the kitchen staff had forgotten it. (I looked and indeed there was something cheeselike there, but it remained undetectable in flavor.) My friend's basic double-decker was pretty much twice the same: juicy beef, respectable trimmings, and twofold flavorless cheese; thankfully, Dave's does without the padding of an extra midbun.

After much experimentation on several visits, I finally hit on my favorite build-your-own: a single with grilled onions and blue cheese on a sesame seed bun. (Of the three cheeses I tried, the blue was the only one that had any noticeable personality.) I also enjoyed the vegetarian black bean burger, lightly grill charred and with a little back-end kick from vaguely Mexican seasonings, I'd guess cumin with a touch of chilies. Turkey burgers are also available; the turkey I tried was the juiciest of the lot but also the greasiest, even in the single size (the grilled onions may have contributed to that).



JOHN COPLEY

Sampling among the six preset combination "signature burgers," we were derailed by the Train Wreck, whose trademarked name is a fitting description of this compilation of meat, fats, and starches: two beef patties, that same flavorless cheddar, fried onions, fried mushrooms, a fried egg, french-fried potatoes, and mayonnaise in a soft white bun. Less would be more here; the smooshed fries were excess baggage, the egg overcooked. The Blues Burger was on a more modest scale, with just two meat patties and blue cheese, but it suffered from a large dose of incongruous Cajun spicing, and the unpleasantness was compounded by a stale honey-wheat bun. (I will say that that was the sole dated bun among many fresh ones, and that generally the buns stand up well to the meat.) But we liked the bacon BBQ burger, which came together well with crispy bacon and a fine barbecue sauce.

I see very good potential in the logo's other mythic mainstay—the "legendary" french fries. Made with fresh-cut potatoes, they're blanched in hot peanut oil, allowed to rest, and then recrisped in the oil. They really are vastly better than the kind of uniform tasteless sticks that so often masquerade as *pommes frites*. Two quibbles: Early on, each order of fries had an overabundance of too-small, blackened potato pieces—the effect was unsatisfying, not unlike a box of movie popcorn loaded with unpopped kernels. Dave's people seemed to have improved on this score by my later visits. But they still need to work on texture—the potatoes are not always getting fully crisped on that second fry. I'd say that with a few tweaks, the fries, available in a generous single or obscene double portion, have the potential for greatness. I liked Dave's thin crispy sweet-potato chips too, although using the "signature honey mustard dipping sauce" was like dunking your chips in cinnamon-maple syrup.

The menu also includes a few salads, among which I tried the Cobb, a mix of very fresh and clean greens, crisp bacon, and a surprisingly good balsamic vinaigrette dressing, although here again there's a need for better cheese.

JOHN COPLEY

Although the business is geared to carry-out, the headliner items did not travel well. The burgers dried up and the fries became irretrievably soggy by the time we got them home, a ten-minute drive.

Service is efficient at lunch but haphazard in the evening, when the staff started every meal with a bang only to lose focus and wander off midway through dinner. But they were always genuinely affable, and even in these early days, when slipups are bound to occur, their good natures make up for the lapses in professionalism—we saw one youthful staffer frantically running around the parking lot, looking to reunite a credit card with its lost owner.

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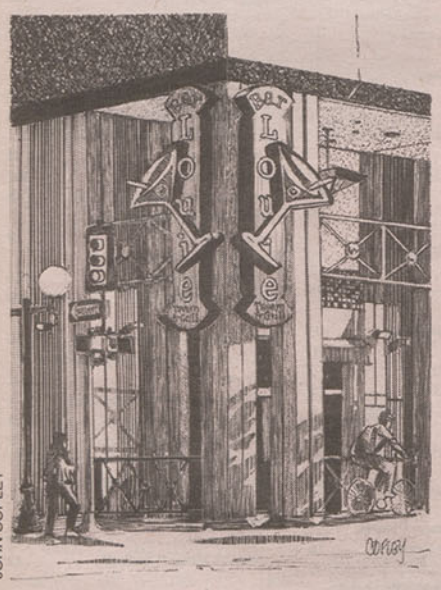

JOHN COPLEY

Quick Bites

I'll admit right up front that I don't have much experience with chain restaurants—this summer, my friends had to walk me through a Dairy Queen excursion like a visitor from outer space. But I try to keep an open mind, so when a friend suggested I have a look at **Bar Louie,** the Liberty Street outpost of a popular Chicago-based chain, I thought, why not?

On my first visit, Bar Louie showed off its most appealing sports-bar side. It was an away-game day, and the place has eight huge TV monitors placed around the attractive, cavernous, dimly lighted room. The music is deafening, but the communal roaring, moaning, and gasping of Wolverine fans at each completed pass and heartbreaking fumble easily overwhelmed the sound track. We got in the spirit with a couple of tailgater-type appetizers. The Szechuan rib bites were meaty and succulent, although the sauce seemed at once a little too sugary, a little too salty, and a little underspiced. The Buffalo wings were dry—my goof, as I'd ordered boneless—but here again the flavors were both excessive and muted: not enough fire and too much salt on the chicken; not enough tang in a blue-cheese sauce that was more like cottage cheese dip. My drink orders weren't much more successful: I had to send back a glass of undrinkable Sauvignon Blanc, and the Chardonnay the server brought in its place was only tolerable.

On later visits I stuck with Bell's IPA—a $2 bargain during happy hour, weeknights from 4 to 7 p.m. On Tuesdays there's also a decent $1 burger after five o'clock. Trimmings are extra, so the burger tab can easily run up to $2 or even $3, but even so, you can theoretically have a beer and burger for less than $5. Of course, you'll likely spend more on drinks while you wait for a seat—when we got there around six, the place was packed. The crowd did start to thin out between seven and eight, and as crowds go, it's an easy one here—all ages, all castes, all unpretentious.

Except for those Tuesday burgers, you won't find appealing food deals to accompany your happy-hour plonk. The two-for-one appetizer specials are limited to just seven choices, and those I tried ranged from a sophomoric hummus with pita as squishy as Wonder bread to one of the worst foods I've recently encountered. The "loaded fries" are a huge plate of industrial-cut frozen potatoes dunked in the fry basket, topped with runny process cheese ("queso" on the menu), crumbled bacon, pickled carrots and such from a jar ("giardiniera"), and canned jalapeño slices. I'll admit there was a certain initial junk-food appeal when it was hot, but as it cooled down and the grease began congealing in the bottom of the bowl and the pastel-colored "queso" began to gel, we were begging the server to remove it. By comparison, chicken quesadillas with cubes of grilled breast meat and a whopping side of fresh guacamole were pretty good, although they may have been buoyed by the contrast.

One thing Bar Louie always did right was service. It was invariably charming—fast, friendly, and professional. It's not a good place to eat—but as a bar, it's not bad.

—Bix Engels

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i spy

by Sally Bjork

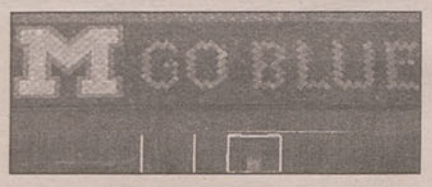
A November 4 destination.

To enter this month's I Spy contest, use the clue above and photo at right to find the spot shown, and send your entry to the address at the bottom of the page.

"I spy, with my little eye, the 'M Go Blue' barn on Scio Church and Oak Valley," wrote Kristen Fazzari, solving October's puzzle. "I'd always wondered who it belonged to."

As many of our forty entrants pointed out, the barn was also featured in October's Inside Ann Arbor article "Barn for Sale" (p. 13), spurred by its recent listing on the real estate market by owners Bill and Katie Parker. "I hope whoever buys the land leaves [the barn] standing," continued Fazzari.

"It is quite a landmark with the 'M' roof," wrote Ken Grupe. We received entries from as far away as Orlando, and covering local ground from Ypsilanti to Grass Lake and Pittsfield to Pinckney. "I have looked at it in fondness whenever I . . . go by the Ice Cube," Erick Trombly shared, while Alice Ralph asked a poignant question, "What happens when our landmarks disappear?"



Eric Abrams of Orlando won our random drawing. He will receive a copy of *A History of Ann Arbor,* by Jonathan L. Marwil.

fake ad

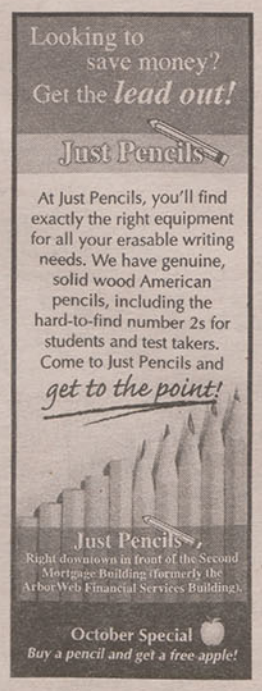
by Jay Forstner

The Fake Ad Czar doesn't play favorites. If he did, he'd give the prize to his children every month. Nobody wants that. Well, nobody but them.

But if he did play favorites, he would play Janel Hohmann-Lamb's October entry all the doo-dah day. Last month's Fake Ad, on p. 63, was for a store called Just Pencils—but Hohmann-Lamb was the only entrant who noted that it wasn't meant to be about just pencils. "'Just Pencils' seems to hark back to the Great Depression, with its offer of a free apple and its location in the Second Mortgage Building," she wrote. Thank you, thank you, Hohmann-Lamb. Now the Fake Ad Czar is going to his house for lunch. He has a sudden craving for home. And lamb.

"Very clever, as always!" Vikki Ross wrote. "Your fake ad feature makes sure I read AA Observer cover to cover—very fun!"

In response, the Fake Ad Czar would like to quote Henny Youngman: "I love this crowd!"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get to the point!
Just Pencils
Right downtown in front of the Second Mortgage Building (formerly the ArborWeb Financial Services Building).
October Special
Buy a pencil and get a free apple!

Speaking of crowds, we received eighty-five entries correctly identifying the Just Pencils ad. Peg Carver won our random drawing; she's taking her gift certificate to Cafe Verde.

To enter, identify the November Fake Ad by name and page number and let us know at the address below. In the Just Pencils ad, "ArborWeb Financial Services Building" concealed (barely) *arborweb,* the name of an Observer website—sharp-eyed readers' clue that they'd found the fake. The winner of our random drawing will receive a $25 gift certificate to any business advertising in this issue.

Send separate entries to Fake Ad or I Spy, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104. *Fax:* (734) 769–3375. *Email:* backpage@aaobserver.com. You must include your name, address, and telephone number! All correct entries received in the Observer office by noon on Monday, November 10, will be eligible for the November drawings.

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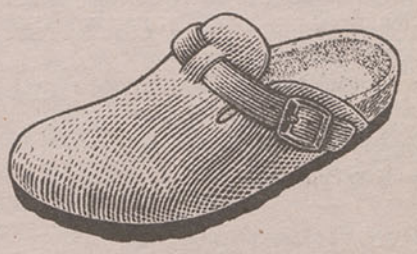

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Events at a Glance

*A capsule guide to selected major events in November. See p. **43** for a complete listing of this month's Gallery, Nightspots, and Events reviews. Daily events listings begin on p. **43**. Events marked with an asterisk (*) are listed in Nightspots, which begins on p. **81**.*

Classical & Religious Music

- Ann Arbor Concert Band, Nov. 2
- Concordia Choir & Boychoir of Ann Arbor, Nov. 2
- Muse Ensemble, Nov. 2
- Pianist Frances Renzi, Nov. 5
- Pianists Emanuel Ax and Yefim Bronfman, Nov. 8
- Dexter Community Band, Nov. 9
- Accordionist Peter Soave & marimbist David Hall, Nov. 9
- The Children of the World Choir, Nov. 12
- Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir, Nov. 13
- Kerrytown Concert House "[Opera] Scenes and Sondheim," Nov. 14
- EMU Bandorama, Nov. 15
- U-M Men's Glee Club, Nov. 15
- Vivo Sinfonietta, Nov. 15
- Harpsichordists Alice Van Wambeke & Martha Folts, Nov. 15
- Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra, Nov. 15
- Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra, Nov. 16
- Kerrytown Concert House "Evening of Brahms," Nov. 21
- U-M Women's Glee Club, Nov. 22
- *Leigh Daniels Ensemble, Nov. 22
- Dexter Community Orchestra, Nov. 23
- Violinist Shmuel Ashkenasi, Nov. 23
- Ann Arbor Cantata Singers, Nov. 23
- U-M Michigan Pops Orchestra, Nov. 23

Ethnic & Traditional Music

- Alan Jabbour & Ken Perlman (folk), Nov. 2
- Oscar Santillan and Laszlo & Helen Slomovits (North & South American folk fusion), Nov. 15
- Biakuye (African), Nov. 24
- *Matt Watroba (folk), Nov. 28

Lectures & Readings

- Poet Karyna McGlynn, Nov. 1
- Fiction writers Renee Gladman & Peter Markus, Nov. 3
- Fiction writer Derek Green, Nov. 3
- Food activist Judy Wicks, Nov. 5
- Architect and landscape designer Fritz Haeg, Nov. 8–10
- Poet Mariela Griffor, Nov. 12
- Poet Katy Lederer, Nov. 13
- PostSecret creator Frank Warren, Nov. 17
- Novelist Todd Hasak-Lowy, Nov. 17
- Political correspondent David Broder, Nov. 18
- Poets Matt Hittinger and James Shea, Nov. 19
- Fiction writer Amy Hempel, Nov. 20
- Ecologist Sandra Steingraber, Nov. 20
- Poet Kevin Coval, Nov. 21

Conferences & Forums

- Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice Morikawa "How Can Religion Promote Peacemaking in the Middle East?" forum, Nov. 9
- Housing Bureau for Seniors "Aging in Place" conference, Nov. 10–13

Festivals, Fairs, & Shows

- Ann Arbor Stamp Club show, Nov. 1 & 2
- Talladay Farms Corn Maze, Nov. 1 & 2
- Alebrije Productions "Dia de Muertos" celebration, Nov. 1 & 2
- Wystan Stevens's Forest Hill Cemetery Tour, Nov. 2 & 9
- Jewish Book Festival, Nov. 5–7, 9–14, 16, & 17
- Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild Tellabration, Nov. 15
- Teddy Bear Show & Sale, Nov. 16
- U•Con Gaming Convention, Nov. 21–23
- Manchester "Christmas in the Village," Nov. 21 & 22
- Rails on Wheels Train Show & Sale, Nov. 30

Pop, Rock, Blues, & Jazz

- The Elders (roots rock), Nov. 1
- MACCFest (a cappella showcase), Nov. 1
- *Harper (blues), Nov. 1
- *Dungen (Swedish psychedelic folk-rock), Nov. 1
- Ravish Momin's Trio Tarana (jazz fusion), Nov. 2
- Superchick (Christian rock), Nov. 3
- *Needtobreathe (alternative rock), Nov. 5
- *Willy Porter (singer-songwriter), Nov. 7
- Robin Lee Berry (singer-songwriter), Nov. 7
- Joe Lovano's Us Five Quintet (jazz), Nov. 7
- *Eastern Blok with Goran Ivanovic (Balkan fusion), Nov. 7
- Carrie Newcomer (singer-songwriter), Nov. 8
- *Nomo (Afrobeat-jazz), Nov. 8
- *Richard Shindell (singer-songwriter), Nov. 8
- "Acappellooza" (a cappella showcase), Nov. 8
- Joan Baez (folkie chanteuse), Nov. 10
- *Ray Bonneville (blues), Nov. 11
- Brian Wilson (pop-rock), Nov. 12
- Eugene Chadbourne (jazz-country), Nov. 13
- Country Joe McDonald (folk-rock), Nov. 13
- *Jackopierce (pop-rock), Nov. 13
- *Devin the Dude (hip-hop), Nov. 13
- The G-Men (a cappella), Nov. 14
- *Saffire—the Uppity Blues Women (blues), Nov. 14
- Amazin' Blue (a cappella), Nov. 15
- *Enter the Haggis (Celtic fusion), Nov. 15
- Dave Liebman (jazz), Nov. 16
- *Four Bitchin' Babes (singer-songwriters), Nov. 16
- *William Fitzsimmons (folk-rock singer-songwriter), Slow Runner (pop-rock), and Caitlin Crosby (pop-folk singer-songwriter), Nov. 17
- *The Subdudes (roots rock), Nov. 18
- *Ken Peplowski (jazz), Nov. 18
- *MC Chris (hip-hop), Nov. 18
- *Cadillac Sky (postpunk progressive bluegrass), Nov. 19
- *Brendan James (singer-songwriter), Nov. 20
- Avenged Sevenfold (metal-rock) and Buckcherry (rock 'n' roll), Nov. 21
- 58 Greene (a cappella), Nov. 21
- Dicks and Janes (a cappella), Nov. 21
- Chuck Brodsky (singer-songwriter), Nov. 21
- *Dick Siegel (singer-songwriter), Nov. 21
- *The Dirtbombs (postpunk garage), Nov. 21
- County Connection Sweet Adelines, Nov. 22
- *Susan Werner (singer-songwriter), Nov. 22
- *Claudia Schmidt (singer-songwriter), Nov. 23
- Jeff Daniels & Company (Michigan songs), Nov. 29
- *James Hunter (English R&B), Nov. 30

Wit

Redbud Productions presents *Wit* November 6-9.

Theater, Opera, & Dance

- *Side Man* (U-M Basement Arts), Nov. 1 & 2
- *Jack Goes Boating* (Blackbird Theatre), Nov. 1, 2, 7–9, 14–16, 21, & 22
- *Apartment 3A* (Purple Rose Theatre), Nov. 1, 2, 5–9, 12–16, 19–23, 25, 26, & 28–30
- *Joseph & the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (Young People's Theater), Nov. 6–8
- *Mammals* (U-M Basement Arts), Nov. 6–8
- *Wit* (Redbud Productions), Nov. 6–9
- *Geoffrey & Jeffrey* (Performance Network), Nov. 6–9, 13–16, 20–23, & 28–30
- *Blackwater Ballad* (EMU Theater Department), Nov. 7 & 8
- *Return to the Forbidden Planet* (Huron High Players), Nov. 7, 8, 14, & 15
- *Hell's Bell* (Dreamland Puppet Troupe), Nov. 7, 14, 21, & 29
- *On Golden Pond* (Saline Area Players), Nov. 7–9, 14, & 15
- *Miss Saigon* (Pioneer High School Theatre Guild), Nov. 8, 9, & 14–16
- *Kamikaze* (U-M Residential College Players), Nov. 8
- *The Miracle Worker* (Skyline High School), Nov. 13–15
- *Eugene Onegin* (U-M Opera Theatre), Nov. 13–16
- *Measure for Measure* (U-M Rude Mechanicals), Nov. 14–16
- *The Apple Tree* (Dexter Community Players), Nov. 14–16, 21, & 22
- *Jake's Women* (U-M Residential College Players), Nov. 14–16
- *Speech & Debate* (U-M Basement Arts), Nov. 20–22
- *The Music Man* (Rudolf Steiner High School), Nov. 20–22
- *Ella Minnow Pea* (U-M Musical Theatre Department), Nov. 20–23
- *Falling into Place* (U-M Dance Department B.F.A. Concert), Nov. 20 & 21
- *Lend Me a Tenor* (Ann Arbor Civic Theatre), Nov. 20–23
- *The Snow Queen* (EMU Theater Department), Nov. 21–23 & 30
- *The Crucible* (Greenhills School), Nov. 21–23
- *Parade* (U-M MUSKET), Nov. 21–23

Comedy & Performance Art

- Comic Spike Tobin, Nov. 1
- Monkey Rampant Sketch Comedy, Nov. 1
- *"The Doyle & Debbie Show" country parody revue, Nov. 2
- Comic Jackie Kashian, Nov. 6–8
- Comic Aziz Ansari, Nov. 9
- Comic Sean Kent, Nov. 13–15
- Comic Joe DeVito, Nov. 20–22
- Comic Heywood Banks, Nov. 28–30

Family & Kids' Stuff

- Kiwanis Fun Fair, Nov. 1
- Wiard's Orchards "Night Terrors," Nov. 1
- *Trampas: Trickster Tales from South of the Border* (Wild Swan Theater), Nov. 5–8
- *Rapunzel* (Ann Arbor Junior Theater), Nov. 6–9
- Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra & Gemini children's concert, Nov. 9
- *The Fabulous Fable Factory* (Young Actors Guild), Nov. 14–16
- *PanPlay* (Riverfolk Theater), Nov. 15 & 16
- Susan Harrison family concert, Nov. 16
- *If You Give a Pig a Pancake & Other Stories* (Theatreworks USA), Nov. 16
- *Fable-iscious* (Performance Network Children's Theatre Network), Nov. 16
- Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild "Children's Tellabration," Nov. 16
- *A Honey Pot of Pooh Stories* (Wild Swan Theater), Nov. 20–22
- Billy Jonas family concert, Nov. 23
- Guy Louis "World Music Tour" (Performance Network Children's Theatre Network), Nov. 29
- Gemini & company family concert, Nov. 30

Miscellaneous

- Miss Washtenaw County Pageant, Nov. 1
- Election Day, Nov. 4

"Only in Ann Arbor" Event of the Month

- Neutral Zone 10th Anniversary Reunion, Nov. 26

school of art & design

NOVEMBER 2008

www.art-design.umich.edu

10.24 – 11.08

Exhibition: *For Tshepo: I will not move to the outskirts of the city: an ode to the fictitious village of Tiragalong, the cities of Jozi and the D*

UM visiting artist from Johannesburg, Mphapho (Ra) Hlasane, exhibits work that engages the parallels between the cultural and economic histories of Johannesburg and Detroit and, to some odd degree, similarities between Detroit and the fictional village of Tiragalong.
Work • Detroit
3663 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, MI

11.05 - 11.07

Arts On Earth Event: *Arts & The Environment*

A set of artistic installations, performances, screenings and talks that meld the arts and sciences in experiences meant to re-awaken us to our role in the natural world. Featuring a keynote address by David W. Orr, Paul Sears Distinguished Professor of Environmental Studies and Politics at Oberlin College. *For Details: www.artsonearth.org/projects/artsenvir.html*

11.06 PENNY W. STAMPS DISTINGUISHED VISTORS SERIES PRESENTATION

Theo Jansen *"The Great Pretender"*

Since 1990, Dutch artist Theo Jansen states that he has been "working hard on new forms of life." He makes skeletons that are able to walk on the wind. *Co-sponsored by the UM College of Engineering; UM Taubman College of Architecture & Urban Planning; the UM School of Music, Theatre, & Dance; and the UM Program in the Environment.*
Presentation: 5:10pm
Michigan Theater, 306 E. Liberty

11.08 – 11.09

Film Screening and Exhibition: *Bruce Checevsky presents "Avant-Garde Cinema in Poland"*

Featuring shorts and stills from the lost and unmade works of four important avant-garde experimental Polish filmmakers.
Reception with Filmmaker: Saturday, Nov. 8 12:00
Part of the 15th Ann Arbor Polish Film Festival at the Michigan Theatre. www.annarborpolonia.org/filmfestival
Work • Ann Arbor, 306 S. State St.

11.08 – 12.20

Exhibition: *For Better or For Worse: Kathryn Brackett Luchs and Michael Luchs*

New work by A&D lecturer Kathryn Luchs and Michael Luchs, Detroit artists associated with the group of artists and writers living and working in Detroit's Cass Corridor in the 1960s and '70s.
Opening Reception: Friday, Nov. 7 6:00-8:00 p.m.
Center Galleries, College for Creative Studies,
301 Frederick Douglass, Detroit, MI

11.13 PENNY W. STAMPS DISTINGUISHED VISTORS SERIES PRESENTATION

Jun Nguyen-Hatsushiba *"Memorial Projects"*

Jun Nguyen-Hatsushiba's films explore Vietnamese history and national identity. His recent project focuses on the concept of "memorial." *Co-sponsored by the UM Center for Southeast Asian Studies.*
Presentation: 5:10pm
Michigan Theater, 306 E. Liberty

11.14 - 12.11

Exhibition: *A&D's 7th Annual All Student Exhibition*

The School of Art & Design's yearly student extravaganza covering four A&D galleries including PLAY, A&D's online gallery for time-based work.
Exhibition Opening Reception: Friday, Nov. 14 6:00-9:00pm
Slusser Gallery, 1st floor and Warren Robbins Gallery, 2nd floor, A&A Building, 2000 Bonisteel Blvd.; **Work • Ann Arbor,** 306 S. State; and **PLAY** at **www.Playgallery.org**

11.19

Audio Event: *Third Coast Listening Room*

An evening of documentary audio shorts. Hosted by the directors of the Third Coast International Audio Festival, the evening offers radio fans the opportunity to listen together and share opinions about what they hear--like a book club for radio. *Co-sponsored with Michigan Radio.*
Event: 7:30-9:00pm
Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin Ave, North Campus

11.20 PENNY W. STAMPS DISTINGUISHED VISTORS SERIES PRESENTATION

Daniel J. Martinez *"Freedom is the Crime Which Contains All Crimes"*

Daniel Joseph Martinez lives and works in the Crenshaw District of South Los Angeles. Using forms of strategic engagement and illusion, his work focuses on themes of contamination, history, nomadic power, cultural resistance, and systems of symbolic exchange. *Co-sponsored by the UM School of Social Work*
Presentation: 5:10pm
Michigan Theater, 306 E. Liberty

11.21

Reception: *"Meanwhile, More Light"*

A 170-foot window mural on Dennison Hall by A&D Professor Jim Cogswell in honor of the Winter 2009 LSA Theme Semester, *The Universe: Yours to Discover.*
Reception for the artist: 4:00-6:00pm
Dennison Hall Lobby, University of Michigan, 500 Church Street

11.21 - 12.27

Exhibition: *Vision: Many Ways of Seeing*

Sculpture from ceramics programs for the blind and visually impaired led by A&D Professor Sadashi Inuzuka, including work by children and youth from the Detroit area schools, and clients of the Washtenaw County Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled.
Opening Reception, Friday, Nov. 21 6:00-9:00pm
Work • Detroit, 3663 Woodward Ave., Detroit, MI

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